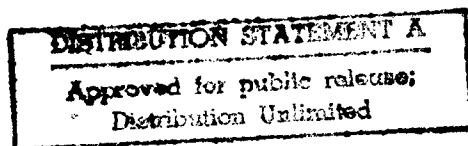


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Latin America Report



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23 August 1985

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BARBADOS-TRINIDAD BWIA TALKS AIM TO AVERT TRADE SPAT

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 18 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Clevon Raphael]

[Text]

TRINIDAD and Tobago and Barbados are holding high level discussions on the thorny BWIA Saturday flights to London issue in efforts to avert what could turn out to be a "tit for tat" trade confrontation between the two Caribbean States.

Official sources in Port-of-Spain said yesterday that even though the recent Caricom Heads of Government Conference made some positive headway in the area of co-operation in regional air services, that particular matter was yet to be resolved.

Barbados was holding out for the "freeing up" of Trinidad and Tobago's markets to goods manufactured in Barbados, as a talking point with respect to BWIA flying through Barbados to London Saturdays.

This agreement between the two states expires on November 15, 1985 and so far no word has been received from Barbados on its renewal.

The source continued:

"This has put the BWIA winter schedule in some difficulty because in the absence of a firm agreement the schedule cannot be effectively drawn up.

"However BWIA has been instructed to proceed in any case with the drawing up of the schedule. We are hopeful that the licence will be renewed and everything will turn out alright."

It was explained that if BWIA was prevented from going to London through Barbados the same situation which existed in 1984 when BWIA was faced with a similar threat would ensue-retaliation by enraged nationals of Trinidad and Tobago.

The source added:

"Apart from nationals exercising their own travel boycott to Barbados — which Barbados could not successfully sustain at this time — there would be official sanctions.

"But this kind of confrontational situation is not something that would benefit either country. Both countries could end up hurt so to

avoid that scenario officials are holding discussions."

One of the issues being tackled is the issuing of EC-Os for foreign exchange to pay Barbadian exports.

On another air service matter involving Trinidad and Tobago, the source said that despite what Mr. Vere Bird Jr., Antigua's Minister of Aviation, might say, the fact remained that Antigua has not yet designated BWIA as its carrier on the London route.

Recently Trinidad and Tobago's State Enterprises Minister Mr. Ronnie Williams accused Antigua of reneging on an agreement to this effect.

But Mr. Bird replied immediately saying that this was not so and Antigua had designated BWIA as its carrier to London — even though Antigua signed an agreement with the British granting that right to British Airways.

Yesterday, the "Guardian" was told that attached to the British/Antigua accord was a confidential note which stated Antigua intended to designate BWIA as its carrier to London.

The source said:

"You will agree that the word 'intended' is not a positive commitment. That is the kind of double dealing we are faced with. Trinidad and Tobago was literally stabbed in the back because while we were speaking with Antigua on firming up an air services agreement Antigua was conducting similar talks with the British."

That agreement signed in March 1985 lasts for one year and the official could not say what would happen at the end of that agreement as far as BWIA was concerned.

But why was British Airways, a much larger airline than BWIA engaged in running smaller airlines off certain routes?

The source said:

"Simple. BA is now owned by the British Government and for some time now the Thatcher administration has wanted to sell the airline to the private sector as a viable entity.

"One of the ways is to run other airlines off the routes which is quite acceptable in the tough business world. BA has been doing just that all over the world where it flies.

"But when it is sold the British Government is not concerned after that..they would have already got their money. In the Caribbean it is pathetic because the whole concept of Caribbean unity will be facing a question mark because of the strength of a larger country.."

CSO: 3298/887

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BARBADOS ECONOMIST CALLS ON TRINIDAD TO SETTLE DEBT

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 15 Jul 85 p 41

[Text]

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Sunday, (CANA) — Even though it did not contract the debt, Trinidad and Tobago's Central Bank should pay off the US\$65 million Barbados is owed under a suspended trade credit facility the Port of Spain financial institution administered, a respected University of the West Indies (UWI) economist has suggested.

The Central Bank "has the responsibility to repay Barbados" because the institution was the agent for the administration of the facility, said Barbadian Wendell McClean, senior lecturer in Economics at the UWI campus here.

McClean made the comment on the collapsed Caricom (Caribbean Community) Multilateral Clearing Facility during the Senate's debate on a money resolution yesterday.

He said he felt the

Barbados Government and the island's Central Bank "had reached the end of the line" in efforts to get back the money for goods shipped to other Caribbean countries and "Barbados should start by appointing a special negotiator to deal with this matter."

The CMCF, a scheme operated by Caricom central banks and geared to reducing the need for foreign exchange in intraregional trading except when balances are settled twice yearly, collapsed in April 1983 after its US\$100 million credit ceiling was

reached. The bulk of the debt was owed by economically-troubled Guyana, which has to date been unable to pay up.

With a massive foreign debt — recently estimated at about one billion U.S. dollars — Guyana has been finding it difficult to wipe out the CMCF arrears.

During the recent Caricom Heads of Government meeting here, Guyana President Forbes Burnham said he had worked out arrangements for clearing the debt in five years.

The timetable, however, depends on whether non-sugar-producing Caribbean states uphold a commitment to purchase some of Guyana's surplus supplies.

McClean said Trinidad and Tobago had been a major beneficiary of the CMCF operation. It had made "clear and unequivocal gains" by using the fund to sell its oil, McClean told the senate.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CARICOM URGED TO FORM MECHANISM BOOSTING HUMAN RIGHTS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 13 Jul 85 p 5

[Text]

BRIDGETOWN, Fri., (Cana):

A GROUP of experts from the Caribbean and other Commonwealth States have recommended that Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries establish a range of regional mechanisms for upholding human rights, including the creation of a Caribbean Elections Commission, Caribbean Court of Appeal and a Caribbean Human Rights Commission.

The recommendations have emerged from a recent Commonwealth colloquium on the special security needs of small states in the Caribbean region, held in The Bahamas, where a Commonwealth Summit is scheduled to deal in October with problems confronting small states.

The colloquium was one of three organised by a Commonwealth consultative group, set up last year by the Commonwealth Secretariat in London, in response to a mandate from the last Commonwealth Summit in New Delhi, to undertake a study of the security needs of small Commonwealth members.

The consultative group, headed by the The Bahamas Chief Justice, Teleford Georges, is expected to have a final meeting by month end in London, before preparing its report for Commonwealth Secretary General, Shridath Ramphal, to take to The Bahamas Summit.

Caricom Foreign Ministers were presented with a report on the Caribbean colloquium when they met

in St. Kitts-Nevis in May. The matter was also an agenda item at the attention of the just-concluded Summit of the Caricom Secretariat.

Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) participated in the Caribbean colloquium, along with members of the Commonwealth Consultative Group.

Informed sources told Cana that the experts, who met in The Bahamas, felt that more than free and periodic elections was necessary to constitute democracy at the national level.

They, therefore, recommended the creation of appropriate regional mechanisms to help protect key core aspects of a democratic state from domestic abuse.

Additionally, the Caribbean colloquium, which followed similar meetings in the African and Indian Ocean region and the South Pacific region,

suggested the need for a regionally co-ordinated foreign policy, both economic and political, as well as for treaty arrangements, including possible alliances with other states, without compromise of effective sovereignty and cultural identity.

Caricom Governments have also been informed of the recommendations now being considered by the Commonwealth consultative group for security measures, including intelligence gathering at both national and regional levels.

While commending as a good beginning, the arrangements being worked out by Barbados and OECS states on military-security co-operation, the experts who met in The Bahamas, and whose views will form part of the report to be forwarded to the Commonwealth Summit, advised against the establishment of what they describe as exclusive institutions.

Aware of the conflicts that erupted within Caricom over the US-led invasion of Grenada, the experts feel that any collective security agreement should involve a range of graduated responses, and be dealt with within regional institutions, before seeking bilateral extra-regional assistance.

CSO: 3298/887

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

MEXICAN, GUATEMALAN FISHERY AGREEMENT--Guatemala City, Jul 12 (NOTIMEX)--Mexico's Fishery Secretary Pedro Ojeda Paullada today met with Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade and signed an agreement. He also signed technical cooperation program with Juan Humberto Mancur, Guatemalan minister of agriculture, livestock and food. Ojeda Paullada arrived this morning for a 24-hour visit in Guatemala City. [By Juan Gaudenzi] [Excerpt] [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0038 GMT 13 Jul 85]

MEXICAN, HONDURAN ELECTRICAL AGREEMENT--Mexico City, 2 Jul (NOTIMEX)--Fernando Hiriart Balderrama, director general of Mexico's Federal Electricity Commission, and Abraham Rodriguez Sianos, acting manager of the Electric Company of Honduras, have signed here a cooperation agreement for the exchange of technical information on the measurement, distribution and transfer of electricity. The agreement, which establishes that expenses will be paid by the country requesting technical information, was signed in the presence of Honduran Communications Secretary Miguel Lardizabal Becerra [as received] chairman of the board of the Electric Company of Honduras, and several Honduran Embassy representatives. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1425 GMT 2 Jul 85]

CSO: 3248/453

ARGENTINA

CGT PRESENTS 21-POINT 'NATIONAL PROPOSAL'

PY312351 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 31 Jul 85 p 9

[Text] (NA-DYN)--The unified CGT last night released its "national proposal" which would, among other things, channel currency now going to service the foreign debt to finance "the immediate recovery of the national economy."

"Producing more" is the only way of defeating inflation, which in turn is the result of an "insufficient supply," the CGT stated.

Following are the 21 points of the CGT's proposal.

Foreign Debt:

Moratorium on the payment of services of the foreign debt in order to channel all resources to economic recovery.

That Congress determine the nature and legitimacy of the debt and decide on the obligations and negotiating terms once the present emergency is overcome, excluding any action that implies renouncing sovereignty.

New obligations not be contracted to pay services nor their usurious growth allowed through extra interest charges.

Financial Reordering:

A financial entities law defining the Central Bank as the organizer of credit, making productive activities a priority.

Productive Mobilization:

Mobilize unused capacity with fiscal and credit support based on plans for greater production and increased employment.

Popular Housing:

Rapid and ample employment of bank funds for housing project accessible through easy credit which would help solve the housing problem and act as a force of recovery.

Exports:

Direct and indirect incentives to organize sustained export programmes with a large degree of value added production, parallel to those for primary production.

Import substitution.

Recover parity in setting shipping and land transport charges on foreign trade.

Exporting as a permanent national strategy.

Public Investment and Recovery:

Public investment with a strict order of priorities so that state services and companies reach optimum efficiency and increase their capacity to produce and export goods and technology.

Defence and Industrial Recovery:

Defend and recover the level reached by basic and leading industries.

Economic Federalism:

Legitimate, equitable and effective allotment of federal revenue-sharing funds.

Private Investment Promotion:

Support the investment effort with clear and stable investment rules, with a set of priorities that represent an explicit development model.

Constitutional Order:

Defend the democratic and republican order with respect to the powers of Congress in considering the foreign debt, the national currency and the budget. That the economic authority not exceed its constitutional jurisdiction, especially in its negotiations abroad.

Legal and Social Justice:

Repeal of the dictatorial rulings that annulled democratic laws on union organization, work contracts and collective bargaining contracts.

Guarantee the constitutional rights of the worker and collective labor contracts.

Protect the services offered by workers' social welfare funds from the constant deterioration they face in terms of their economic-financial situations.

Defend the welfare funds system from the government tendency to absorb them, end interventions and restore their control by unions.

Normalize INOS (the national welfare funds system), placing CGT representatives of its board.

Increase the salary of active and retired workers in order to ensure a just payment that contributes to the promotion of domestic consumption.

CSO: 3300/46

23 August 1985

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

COMMUNIST SUSPECTED MURDERER ARRESTED--(NA-DYN)--Domingo Valenzuela, suspected murderer of Villa Corina Communist leader Antonio Villar, was arrested at noon yesterday and allegedly confessed to the crime. Earlier in the day Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli voiced the opinion that the murder was a "personal act of aggression without any political connotations." Interior Under Secretary Raul Galvan assured Communist leader Jesus Mira yesterday morning that the crime would be thoroughly investigated. But at Villar's funeral yesterday afternoon Mira criticized Galvan for allegedly telling him (Mira) that the Peronists were responsible for the shooting when Mira put the blame on "Yankee imperialism." Villar's associates said he was shot in the face at point-blank range on Sunday night for trying to dissuade Valenzuela from holding a pistol to the head of a Communist youth. About 1,000 persons attended the funeral including Communist leaders Rubens Iscaro and Athos Fava. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 24 Jul 85 p 11]

INDUSTRY SECRETARY'S REPLACEMENT RUMORED--(NA-DYN)--Industry Secretary Carlos Lacerca will be replaced by next week, reliable sources insisted yesterday, although the press section of Lacerca's department denied the rumours. Lacerca reportedly submitted a list of 20 industrial projects to President Raul Alfonsin last week in a bid to overcome a reputation for sluggishness. A nominee of former Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun, Lacerca was tipped to be replaced last February when Juan Sourrouille took over from Grinspun, but survived the change of ministers. Nevertheless, his recent disagreements with Cordoba Governor Eduardo Angeloz concerning a possible new Honda motorcycle plant are thought to have doomed him. Lacerca opposed the plant as being only for the assembly of parts manufactured elsewhere. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Jul 85 p 9]

RETIRED OFFICERS PROMOTION--(NA)--The group of Army officers known as the 33 Orientales because of their number late Thursday night moved a step closer to military promotion when the Senate Defense Committee approved a bill to revoke a military decree that forced the men into retirement in 1980. The bill, already passed in the Lower House, only needs Senate approval for passage. Both Radicals and Peronists are expected to back the draft law, which would promote the mostly Peronist officers but not put them back on the active service list. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Jul 85 p 9]

CONCERN OVER SOUTH AFRICA--(DYN)--The Foreign Ministry yesterday stated its concern about the state of emergency recently declared in South Africa, saying it has "done no more than provoke a fresh wave of repressive violence in a bid to sustain racist policies unanimously condemned by the international community." Argentina called for the lifting of the state of emergency, fundamental reforms, and a halt to all direct or indirect support for the Pretoria regime on the part of the international community. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 27 Jul 85 p 9]

EX-MILITARY OFFICER TO HAVANA--Discharged Coast Guard officer Julio Cesar Urien left for Havana yesterday where military officers from several countries will gather to discuss Latin America's foreign debt. Urien will attend the meeting as political secretary of the group for Argentine and Latin American unity, along with the president of the Centre of Military Officers for Democracy (CEMIDA) Horacio Ballester and Secretary Luis Garcia. Both groups, according to Urien, support a moratorium on foreign debt payments and disregard part of the debt they consider illegal. Urien, whose brother has already testified in the trial of the nine former military chiefs, was discharged from the Navy after an uprising at the Navy Mechanics School (ESMA) in 1972, shortly after the return of Peron. The rebellion of Urien's infantry battalion was sparked by the controversy over whether the concept of "following orders" can consistently be upheld. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 28 Jul 85 p 17]

CSO: 3300/46

23 August 1985

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

VERE BIRD STATEMENT CLARIFIES ROLE OF AIRLINE

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 24 Jul 85 p 45

[Text]

ST JOHN'S, Antigua, Tuesday, (CANA) — The Minister of Aviation issued a statement today to clarify the role of Antigua and Barbuda Airways, a State-owned company recently formed to conclude an agreement with British Airways (BA) to service the London-Antigua route.

Vere Bird jnr. said the company was not a carrier and owned no aircraft. It was formed because the charter governing BA prohibits it from entering commercial agreements directly with governments, he added.

Bird repeated that the deal allows St John's a share of the revenue from BA's operation of the route, but gave no details of this arrangement.

The agreement has created much controversy in Trinidad and Tobago whose national carrier BWIA also wants to operate the route but has so far declined to accept British Government terms which would require it to fly to Gatwick and not Heathrow, London's busiest airport.

The statement by Bird said:

"I have noted that there has been a deliberate attempt to create confusion in the minds of the public about Antigua and Barbuda Airways. Therefore, I wish to clarify the entire situation.

First, Antigua and Barbuda Airways is a company registered in Antigua and Barbuda and wholly-owned by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda.

Second, the board of directors comprises representatives of the Ministries of Aviation, Tourism and Foreign Affairs acting in their official capacities.

Third, unlike British Airways, BWIA or any other airline company operating in Antigua, Antigua and Barbuda Airways is not a carrier. In other words, Antigua and Barbuda Airways neither owns nor operates aircraft of any sort.

Fourth, the creation of Antigua and Barbuda Airways in no way contravenes any agreement or understanding currently existing between the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and any government, including governments of Caricom States.

Fifth, Antigua and Barbuda Airways was formed in order to conclude a commercial agreement with British Airways on flights operated by that airline on the London-Antigua route. The reason for the formation of Antigua and Barbuda Airways is that the charter, governing the operation of British Airways, prohibits it from entering direct commercial agreements with governments. Therefore, Antigua and Barbuda Airways was formed by the Government

of Antigua and Barbuda to enter the commercial arrangement with British Airways.

Sixth, under the terms of the commercial agreement between Antigua and Barbuda Airways and British Airways, Antigua derives a share of the revenue on flights operated by British Airways on the London-Antigua route.

In addition, Antigua also has a voice in the operation of the flights. This agreement marks the first arrangement in which Antigua and Barbuda derives a direct financial benefit from the operation of any airline into our country. It also marks the first arrangement by which we have a direct voice in the operations of any airline.

BAHAMAS

ISAACS MEETS PRESS, REITERATES SUMMIT BOYCOTT DECISION

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 12 Jul 85 pp 1, 11

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Excerpt]

THE FNM's determination to boycott the October Heads of State Conference and to demonstrate against Prime Minister Lynden Pindling is as firm as ever, party leader Kendal Isaacs declared today.

Fresh out of a conclave, Mr Isaacs wanted to assure the public that "the long months ahead will not be a long summer vacation for my colleagues and me."

Mr Isaacs told a news conference that the conclave was very fruitful and galvanizing.

"Our feedback from the constituencies indicate that our support is strong and getting stronger every day," he said.

"Some things we plan to do can only be announced when the time is ripe. But, I can tell you now that our determination to boycott the Heads of Government Conference and to demonstrate against Prime Minister Pindling is as firm as ever."

Mr Isaacs also made a statement on the recent dismissal of his application against the Public Disclosure Commission.

The Tribune incorrectly quoted Mr Isaacs's Thursday as saying that costs in the Supreme

Court case, which the Chief Justice ordered him to pay, amount to \$200,000. In fact, Mr Isaacs said that the costs will amount to about \$100,000 and, should he appeal the decision and lose, it may cost another \$100,000.

Also present at this morning's news conference was Senate leader Henry Bostwick, his wife Janet Bostwick (Yamacraw), Pierre Dupuch (Shirlea), Arthur Foulkes (Blue Hills), Frank Watson (Carmichael) and secretary-general Garth Wright. Said Mr Isaacs:

"This week the Commonwealth of the Bahamas celebrated its twelfth anniversary as an independent nation among the other sovereign states of the world. I believe that amidst the pageantry and socializing a great majority of Bahamians could not help but reflect on the extraordinary difficulties our country is facing at this time.

"My colleagues and I never cease to wrestle with these difficulties because we realize that unless they are resolved, or

at least alleviated, the very foundations of our democracy will remain under great stress or will shatter and fall apart.

"Then, of course, independence would lose its greater significance since, as a people, we would have lost our prize possessions of political freedom, equality under the law, the reign of justice and the respect of the other free nations of the world.

"So we have continued the struggle against the evils which afflict us using as many of the tools as are available to us and within our resources to command. Through it all, we have kept foremost in our minds that we ourselves, while fighting for justice and decency, must be careful not to descend to the level of the evil which we fight.

"We have kept in mind also that we fight not just for today and for ourselves. We fight as well that we might be able to hand over to succeeding generations a future securely built upon trusted institutions of law and democracy and of time-tested traditional values."

BAHAMAS

PLP-FNM DISAGREEMENTS CONTINUE IN POLITICAL SPOTLIGHT

FNM Stand on Parliament

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 12 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

THE OPPOSITION today demanded that the Speaker reconvene Parliament, which was suspended for an unprecedented five months June 12 at the Prime Minister's wish, so that Members could deal with the heavy agenda before them.

FNM leader Kendal Isaacs also called on Prime Minister Lynden Pindling to apologize for his failure to show up at the Independence Day service at Clifford Park to which prominent Bahamians and members of the diplomatic community were invited.

"This was an insult and it was particularly pointed because the Prime Minister was not outside the country at the time," Mr Isaacs told a press conference at party headquarters on Mackey Street.

"The only excuse that I could think of would be that he is beginning to absent himself from public life altogether."

Mr Isaacs said that the five month suspension of Parliament, which was forced on Members at the wish of the Prime Minister, was extraordinarily long. Speaker Sir Clifford Darling ordered the suspension without putting the vote to the Floor.

Mr Isaacs speculated that Sir Lynden might prorogue Parliament between now and the October Commonwealth Heads of State Conference and then invite the Queen to open a new session of Parliament by reading his Speech from the Throne, "thereby appearing to condone everything the Prime Minister and his Government has done and giving the impression that the Heads of Government are all in support of Mr Pindling and his Government."

Mr Isaacs said that Parliament is the main forum from which to debate national issues and for dealing with the country's business.

At this particular time in our history, there are many matters of grave importance, matters which bear heavily on the welfare and indeed the very survival of Bahamian society, he said.

"So we condemn the Prime Minister for his high-handed and callous closing down of the people's Parliament for nearly half a year," he said.

"We can only speculate that he is afraid of the mounting criticism of his administration by the Opposition and embarrassing items brought to the

House by disaffected Members of Parliament."

There were still 25 items on the Agenda when Sir Lynden moved for the five month suspension, including a request by Shirley MP Pierre Dupuch (FNM) for a Select Committee to investigate all matters pertaining to the clandestine sale of the Paradise Island Bridge Company from which Sir Lynden indirectly received \$334,000 from a "finder's fee" paid to Everett Bannister.

Blue Hills MP Arthur Foulkes had raised questions about the Pindling Government paying \$400,000 of public funds to a Washington lobbying group to polish up its tarnished image. And Cooper's Town MP Hubert Ingraham (PLP) was to move for a Resolution expressing the House's deep appreciation to former Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Hanna for 25 years of service to Parliament. Mr Hanna is one of the leaders of the dissident faction in the PLP.

"Whatever his reasons, we demand of him today that he calls on the Speaker to reconvene Parliament so we can deal with the heavy agenda before us," Mr Isaacs said.

Touching on the ease with which drugs can still be bought, he said that this diabolical attack is affecting the country in ways that are difficult to calculate.

Surely, he said, Government must realize that we are in a crisis and that emergency measures are needed to deal with it.

It is absolutely essential that schools throughout the country be properly policed to prevent the destruction of generations to come, Mr Isaacs said.

He urged parents, relatives and all citizens to be on guard against the enemy and to help the police in any way they can.

"Instead of throwing away the people's millions to try to clean up the very tarnished image of Prime Minister Pindling and his corrupt Government, that money should be spent on the immediate construction and staffing of proper rehabilitation centres. It should be obvious to Government that the Family Islands Hospital cannot handle the burden being imposed upon it by spiralling drug abuse," Mr Isaacs said.

"More money must be committed in support of the Drug Council and volunteer groups who are making heroic efforts in the battle against drug abuse and its tragic consequences."

Moving on to crime, Mr Isaacs said that violent crime continues unabated and law-abiding citizens are being murdered and raped so that no-one can feel safe in their homes, at business or on the streets.

He said that drugs, unemployment and a break-down in respect for authority doubtlessly contribute significantly to the unacceptably high level of crime.

"Instead of wasting money and manpower spying on elected representatives of the people, the Government should turn its resources to the fight against crime," he said.

Mr Isaacs was referring to Arthur Hanna's recent declaration in Parliament that his telephone was tapped. Mr Hanna said he was satisfied that it was not tapped on the instructions of the Attorney General or the Minister re-

sponsible for telecommunications. He made reference to "the Godfather." Sir Lynden was not present when Mr Hanna made his remarks.

Mr Isaacs said it was "obvious" who the "Godfather" is.

He said that Sir Lynden has announced that the country is now in the midst of an economic revolution "and we shudder to think what new horrors he has in store for the nation."

"After all, look at what his 'New Frontier' and his 'Social Revolution' have brought us. The landscape is littered with the ruined lives of drug victims. They were sacrificed on the altar of drug czars like Carlos Lehder through the negligence and complicity of the PLP Government."

Mr Isaacs said that Sir Lynden has confessed that "we" have made a garbage dump of the environment, "no doubt one of the great results of the social revolution."

Mr Isaacs said that Nassau is dirty and unsightly and that the economy, once strong enough to provide jobs for all, has been dealt heavy blows by Sir Lynden and the PLP since the early '70s. Freeport has yet to recover from the devastation of those years and there has been hardly any major development in the Family Islands.

"A large part of the Bahamian economy, such as it is, is based not on solid growth but on dope dollars," Mr Isaacs said.

"It is clear that the PLP Government lacks the confidence, competence and insight to achieve the rate of economic growth which our country so desperately needs. Any economic revolution of the PLP can only mean further disaster."

Hint of Early Election

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 15 Jul 85 pp 1, 10

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

AN EARLY election is in the wind, PLP chairman Sean McWeeney indicated at a press conference at Gambler House today.

Mr McWeeney said that the party, which was geared towards a 1987 general election, is working on a more accelerated timetable.

"I think we've moved that up considerably. I wouldn't want to pinpoint the year, but I think you can say that we have accelerated our timetable," he said.

Asked about the possibility of calling an election after the October Commonwealth Heads of State Conference, he replied:

"Anything is possible. It's possible that it might even be before. Only one man holds that card constitutionally, and all I can say is that whenever he decides to play that card the party machinery will be...in an optimum state of readiness."

Mr McWeeney also announced that the PLP will hold its annual National Convention October 28 and that there will be a complete revision of the party's platform. He said that "for those who are interested," the FNM is planning to hold their convention on November 14.

There is a strong possibility that Prime Minister Pindling, who hopes to use the Conference as a means of polishing up his tarnished image, will go into Convention in a "blaze of glory" to announce elections.

Elections must be held no earlier than 35 days, and no later than 45 days after the House is dissolved, excluding holidays.

It has been speculated that he is eyeing January 10, the date the PLP came to power in 1967. It is widely believed that Sir Lynden has a superstitious penchant for the number 10.

Sir Lynden's support in the PLP is continuing to dwindle as a result of the Commission of Inquiry report, which found corruption reaching Cabinet level. It appears that his options may be running out.

Faced with a list of controversial items on the House of Assembly agenda, including the clandestine sale of the Paradise Bridge from which he indirectly received \$334,000, Sir Lynden moved for an unprecedented five month "summer recess" in June. It has been speculated that he may wish to call an early election rather than face some of the items on the agenda, some of which have been tabled by his own backbench dissidents.

"We shall be intensifying and broadening our political activities over the next several months and we shall be putting our party's machinery in a condition of optimum readiness for any eventuality. If the FNM thinks it is on the run now it should just wait and see what the rest of the year has in store," Mr McWeeney said.

"The FNM may have exhausted its political agenda. The PLP is only just now opening its own," he warned.

Mr McWeeney said that over the next six to nine months, there will be "massive public works in the Family Islands," most of which are coming on stream now.

Sir Lynden borrowed \$65 million for Capital Development this year, which is the largest sum that has ever been borrowed for public works in a single year, except for money borrowed to build a hotel, which is a specific project.

The Government borrowed \$30 million around February, and another \$35 million in July.

But, it is understood that Sir Lynden has had to dip into the Capital account to pay salaries

and may already be running short of funds.

Mr McWeeney confirmed that former Housing and National Insurance Minister Hubert Ingraham (Cooper's Town) has been brought before the party's disciplinary committee as a result of complaints made against him. However, he didn't think it would be proper to say anything that would be "prejudgmental."

However, The Tribune learned that Leander Minnis (Bamboo Town), who was perceived as a Pindling man, resigned as chairman of the disciplinary committee about two weeks ago. It is understood that a replacement still has not been named.

One of the persons who complained against Mr Ingraham is former PLP senator and chairman Andrew ("Dud") Maynard, whose M&D Airlines, according to the Commission Report, acquiesced in the trafficking of drugs.

On July 9 Mr Ingraham, who has threatened to put names to criminal elements he claims are in the PLP, launched a bi-monthly newspaper - The Beacon - which was highly critical of the Prime Minister. The Tribune has been reliably informed that Mr Ingraham travelled to Grand Bahama and Bimini over the weekend in connection with his Beacon duties.

Mr McWeeney said that while it was unusual that the Prime Minister was absent from this year's Independence celebrations, it is not true that he is lowering his public profile.

"The Prime Minister had an invitation of long-standing from his constituents" in Kemp's Bay to spend Independence Day with them, he said. He said that the invitation was accepted "many months ago and in fact it was not the first time that the invitation had been extended."

23 August 1985

Mr McWeeney also denied that Sir Lynden moved for a five month House suspension to "duck" some of the items on the House agenda.

"Firstly, I want to observe (that) summer recesses are a traditional fixture," he said. He admitted that they are usually only two or three months long.

"It is apparent for all to see that Parliament Square is going through a massive re-development and it's been as one would expect to find of most construction sites - a fairly noisy place," Mr McWeeney said.

"The original estimates were to the effect that this work would not be completed until well into September."

Mr McWeeney recalled seeing on television last week that the work may be completed in August. However, he said that

the original estimates were that the work would carry into September.

"I don't think that a construction site is an adequate forum for Parliament to operate in," he said.

He said the second reason for suspending Parliament was that Cabinet Ministers "are busily engaged in travel abroad" in connection with the October conference. He said this will continue "virtually up until the time of the...conference."

He said it is completely incorrect to say that parliamentary business has come to a halt because of the suspension. He said that committees may sit during the recess. He said that a number of Members perhaps ought to be encouraged to take advantage of the recess.

"I know that the leader of the Opposition has had a

committee sitting dormant for well over a year..." he said.

Mr McWeeney said it would be "absolutely false" to say that Sir Lynden has become timid of large crowds. He said he marched with the Prime Minister during the recent Labour Day rally and Sir Lynden was well received, comfortable and was not booed.

Asked if, in view of the crumbling infrastructure and high crime rate, it would perhaps be best to spend money on upgrading the facilities instead of hosting the October conference, he said:

"I believe that the money which is being spent is being well spent in the sense that it's not just a short term investment." Mr McWeeney said that there will be an improvement in the environment, eg Rawson Square, "which will be with us for many years to come."

FNM Office in Eleuthera

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 15 Jul 85 pp 1, 12

[Article by Marcia Bethell]

[Text]

PROMISING full employment and "good things in life" for all Bahamians under a Free National Movement Government, Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs officially opened an FNM headquarters building in Rock Sound, Eleuthera over the weekend.

An FNM delegation, including Blue Hills MP Arthur Foulkes; Senator Charles Virgil; vice chairman Edwin Brown; Mrs Loretta Minnis vice president of the Womens Association of the FNM and L. Garth Wright, Secretary General travelled to Eleuthera this weekend.

Before the opening ceremony, a large motorcade led by Mr and Mrs Isaacs left the Cotton Bay Club and drove through the seven settlements of the Rock Sound Constituency, greeting enthusiastic residents who lined the streets waving and cheering those in the parade.

Mr Isaacs spoke at the opening of the headquarters. He told Eleuthera residents that the entire Bahamas is witness to the "negligence, the uncaring attitude, and the corruption of the PLP government. The evidence is all around us," he said.

He said that young people, in particular, can testify to this because there are no jobs available. They cannot find work to support their families. He noted that the Bahamas was once a thriving country, with progress and prosperity until about 1971.

The Opposition Leader further said that the PLP "put a clamp on the development, drove away honest investors and ever since things have been going down hill."

Mr Isaacs made a commitment to full employment for all those Bahamians who want to work.

"We of the Free National Movement not only care about the people of the Bahamas, but I would say unashamedly, we are also competent and we have the known how to do something about the plight of Bahamians and to make sure the quality of life we all dream about becomes a reality for all citizens."

Mr Isaacs called the opening of the new headquarters evidence that the FNM have not given up the fight. He said that whenever the Prime Minister sees fit to call an election, the building will stand as a symbol of victory for the FNM.

Also speaking at the opening ceremonies was Blue Hills MP Arthur Foulkes. He told Eleutherans that their island is not what it used to be. He pointed out that the hotels are closing and nothing is happening on the island.

Mr Foulkes told residents that the "criminals have taken over Nassau. You cannot sleep in the night, you are in danger in your business place and women cannot walk the streets for fear of being raped. Youngsters high on drugs will just walk up to you and blow your heads off," Mr Foulkes said.

The FNM representative blamed the PLP government for the crime wave taking place in Nassau and pointed to the Commission of Inquiry's findings on Kendal Nottage and George Smith.

He said that under the PLP government some of the most "notorious gangsters" have made the Bahamas their haven and the honest investor has been driven out and replaced by a bunch of "thieves, rogues and rascals."

FNM Candidate

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 17 Jul 85 p 1

[Excerpts]

THE CENTREVILLE FNM Constituency Association last night introduced Mr Desmond Edwards as their choice of candidate in the next general elections.

Mr Edwards was born on Hawkins Hill and has been married for 15 years to Bahamian singer and "Valley Girl" Kayla Lockhart Edwards. They have two children, Keysha and Marquinn.

He is a former teacher and banker and now practises law.

Mr Edwards is deeply concerned about the economic, social and moral problems facing the nation regarding unemployment, crime, drug abuse and corruption, the Association said.

He announced that in the next few weeks, the Association will be opening a youth drug counselling service called "The Starting Place." It will be staffed by professionally trained counsellors.

CSO: 3298/907

BAHAMAS

CRIME SETS RECORD PACE; LINK TO DRUGS PARAMOUNT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 17 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Rosemarie Johnson]

[Excerpt] Setting a record high for the Isles of Paradise, the total number of crimes handled by the police in 1984 far surpassed previous years.

"A total 13,099 crimes were dealt with by the police, this being the highest number of indictable offences ever reached. It represents an increase at 1,780 (or 15.73 percent) compared with 1983," the 1984 annual Police Report revealed.

The greatest increase was in theft, which is perhaps closely associated with the increased use of dangerous drugs in the community.

The report stated: "There can be no denial that persons addicted to narcotics would resort to any means in order to satisfy their cravings."

Drug offences increased by more than 30 percent with different regions in the Bahamas recording from marginal to sharp increases: New Providence from 527 to 739 (an addition of 212), Grand Bahama from 137 to 185 (an addition of 48) and other Family Islands from 199 to 202 (an addition of three).

"Many Bahamians unfortunately continue to become entangled with this epidemic, some as suppliers and a great many as users. The number of Bahamians prosecuted for drug offences during the year reached an astounding 1130; more than 75 percent of the total drug offenders," the report disclosed.

During 1984, the police confiscated about 67 tons of marijuana and arrested an estimated 1079 persons. In addition 2227 pounds of cocaine was seized for which 422 persons were arrested.

The report said, "The trafficking and abuse of drugs in the Bahamas continues to be a cause for concern. This illicit trade continues to attract large numbers of traffickers, both national and international who use these islands as staging grounds for transshipment of drugs to other destinations, particularly the U.S."

It is now widely accepted that the misuse and unlawful supply of dangerous drugs cannot be separated from other forms of crime, the report pointed out.

BAHAMAS

RESOLUTION TO BE AIRED AT SECOND TUC PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 12 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Marcia Bethell]

[Text]

THE BAHAMAS Trade Union Congress will hold the second session of its Peoples Parliament on Tuesday, July 16, at 8pm on the Southern Recreation grounds.

The first session was held June 25 to protest the closing of parliament for five months. Among the top issues dealt with during that session was the industrial action taken by the Air Traffic Controllers.

At that meeting TUC Secretary General A Leonard Archer warned that if a general strike were necessary to straighten out the Bahamas then the TUC and the people in general will do whatever is necessary to strighten things out.

The purpose of the Peoples Parliament is to provide a forum for public discussion of important issues that affect the life of our nation. "These discussions have become necessary due to the irregular suspension of the national parliament for a five month period," read a TUC statement today.

The main speakers at the Peoples Parliament will be the leaders of the Trade Union Movement. However public spirited persons who are not declared politicians also will be allowed to speak.

The following resolution will be debated at the meeting at the upcoming session:

"Whereas the Bahamas twelve years after independence finds itself wallowing in a sea of corruption;

"And whereas this condition has been brought about because our political, religious and legal institutions have failed us;

"And whereas the main cause of the corruption has been shown to be greed, selfishness and a lack of self discipline;

"And whereas the continued tolerance of corrupt and immoral leadership is unbecoming of an independent people, who claim to value highly spiritual and moral goodness.

"Be it therefore resolved that the Bahamian people reaffirm their commitment to honest and decent leadership by demanding that all leaders at every level who have allowed themselves to become corrupt, resign their offices immediately.

"Be it further resolved that the Bahamian people commit themselves to a course of action, designed to restore the Bahamas to a position where the Christian values of honesty, truth, goodness and brotherhood are paramount in the lives of its public and private citizens."

The TUC invites all public spirited citizens, who are concerned about the spiritual and moral health of the nation to attend the Peoples Parliament. Persons interested in speaking should contact the Secretary General of the TUC at telephone 37124 on either Monday, July 15, or Tuesday, July 16.

CSO: 3298/907

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

ANTI-DRUG FUNDING--The Drug Action Service and National Drug Council have not received one penny from the Treasury, FNM leader Kendal Isaacs told the party's Centreville Constituency Association last night. Although he stood to be corrected, Mr Isaacs said that in spite of the vast drug problem, the two organizations "up to now have not received a penny out of the Treasury." He said that even the Commission of Inquiry, members of which the Prime Minister named without consulting him, found that Government had not done enough to combat the drug problem. "Excerpt] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 17 Jul 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/908

BARBADOS

ECONOMY CONTINUES RECOVERY IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1985

FL232258 Bridgetown CANA in English 1914 GMT 23 Jul 85

[Text] Bridgetown, 23 Jul (CANA)--The recovery of the Barbados economy, noticeable since the beginning of 1984, continued with two percent growth in the first quarter of this year, according to the Central Bank economic review released here today.

The bank said the expansion was led by a strong tourism sector and a revival in construction, but sugar production was no higher than for last year and output of manufactured goods declined.

Tourism registered a second good winter season with visitor arrivals 9.9 percent higher than for the first quarter of 1984. Tourist expenditure too was up about 10 percent, the bank said.

The United States market followed last year's remarkable recovery with another strong showing (23.5 percent), supported by a 20.5 percent upsurge in the Canadian market, this country's largest source of visitors between 1974 and 1979.

Weak European currencies continued to restrict European visitors and a fall of 19.1 percent from the first quarter of 1984 was recorded. Tourist arrivals from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) continued to weaken after reaching a peak in 1981.

The bank said manufacturing output was depressed by poor local sales, a continuing restriction on imports from Barbados by the authorities in Trinidad and Tobago and further decline in real purchasing power in Jamaica.

Output was 6.1 percent below that for the first quarter of 1984, compared with an increase of 1.9 percent for the same period in that year, the bank report said.

According to the bank, the only bright spot in the manufacturing sector came from electronic components, which increased by 5.7 percent despite the weak international demand for semi-conductors.

It said the manufacture of food products increased by 3.6 percent, but the output of the beverage and tobacco industry fell by 3.8 percent.

The bank said the 1985 sugar crop completed by mid-May topped the 100,000 tonne mark, matching last year's performance, in spite of reduced acreage. The area reaped was 4 percent lower, at 13,739 hectares.

The performance of non-sugar agriculture was mixed. Vegetable production increased and prices eased; the output of milk increased slightly but chicken and fish production fell. The bank said the poultry industry was plagued by high stocks at the end of last year and output fell 14 percent below levels of the first quarter of 1984.

The growth in crude oil production slowed appreciably during the first quarter of 1985, compared with the rapid expansion of 1983 and 1984. During the first quarter of this year, oil output at 160,579 barrels was only 10.5 percent above production for the first quarter of last year. Production had been rising far more rapidly in the previous two years; output rose 77 percent in 1983 and a further 83.5 percent in 1984. At the current rate of production, output for 1985 should satisfy more than 50 percent of domestic requirements. Natural gas sales of 3.0 million cubic metres were 20 percent higher than for the first quarter of 1984.

The bank said that increased government expenditures on housing and road maintenance and repair stimulated activity in the construction sector.

It said private housing benefitted from Central Bank policies to make more mortgage funds available and housing completions for the first quarter of this year stood at 319, or 40 percent more than for the comparable period of last year.

The bank report said that the continued weak performance of the manufacturing sector was mainly responsible for the rise in the unemployment rate to 17.4 percent, about one and a half percentage points above the rate for the first quarter of 1984.

CSO: 3298/909

BARBADOS

BRIEFS

SUGAR INDUSTRY PLAN--Bridgetown, Thurs, (Cana)--The immediate task facing the Barbados sugar industry is its revitalisation, to make its traditional products more competitive and provide the core for the broader agro-industrial development of the island, says government's sugar adviser Gerry Hagelberg. In a paper on the industry, Mr Hagelberg says every fresh proposal for diversification of the loss-making industry needs to be critically examined for what is new and how known difficulties would be overcome. The evidence shows that giving up sugar cane does not automatically lead to the production of other crops on the vacated land. More often the land returns to bush, he says in the latest edition of the Central Bank Economic Review. In a number of Caribbean territories--Barbados, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago--lower sugar cane production has meant a decline in total crop production, according to Mr Hagelberg. The sugar industry produced just over 100,000 tonnes for the second year running, but continues to be financially-troubled, partly because of record low international prices. A convincing case of economic necessity would have to be made out to prevail over all the reasons that, more so than in many other places, speak for the maintenance of an undiminished sugar industry in Barbados, the paper says. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 26 Jul 85 p 4]

CSO: 3298/917

23 August 1985

BERMUDA

UNION ORGAN RAPS GOVERNMENT ON FOREIGN WORKERS ISSUE

Construction Site Complaint

Hamilton THE WORKERS VOICE in English 14 Jun 85 pp 1, 6

[Text] A number of problems have been causing friction between Bermudian construction workers at the site of the Marriott Hotel (formerly Castle Harbour) and the Canadian sub-contracting firm brought in to do the electrical and plumbing work there.

The BIU organiser for the Construction Division told The Workers Voice: "In discussions with the Bermudian and Canadian workers, we have been forced to the conclusion that the Bermuda Government must have given assurances to the foreigners about which we know nothing". To make his point, the organiser cited the case of the Canadian boss of the electrical section who had informed Union officials that it had cost him close to \$7,000 to re-locate his family in Bermuda and to send his son to a local private school.

The organiser, Brother Kenyatta Young, went on to say that it was difficult to believe that the individual concerned would go to that expense on a contract for just one year.

"It would seem to indicate that these workers have received assurances from the Bermuda Government's Immigration Department that there would be no difficulty in extending work permits for an indefinite period. One almost gets the impression that these workers have been led to believe that they are here for quite some time", he alleged.

Attempts to get a comment from Immigration and Labour officials proved fruitless, as the Minister and Labour Relations Officer are out of the island attending the ILO Conference in Geneva.

There have also been allegations by Bermudian workers on the site, that foreign workers have been brought in as "labourers", only to emerge as "foremen" after a few days on the job.

The Union official told us that, in the course of conversation with foreign workers, references were made, on several occasions, to "agreements" with the Bermuda Government.

"What are these agreements?" he asked, "and why has the BIU, which represents the Bermudian workers, not been informed?"

He pointed out that this "contradiction" between the UBP Government's expressed concern for Bermudian workers, and its alleged actions, has caused most of the problems on the job.

"It has also served to create friction between the Bermudian workers and the foreign workers", he said.

UBP Indifference

Hamilton THE WORKERS VOICE in English 14 Jun 85 p 2

[Editorial: "The Foreigner Is Not the Villian!"]

[Text]

In recent months, Bermudian workers have observed the influx of increasing numbers of foreign workers.

Almost every day now, officials at Bermuda Industrial Union headquarters and the staff of Workers Voice are receiving complaints from Bermudians, who have applied for jobs, without success. Then they see foreigners doing those jobs, many of which do not require any high technical skills.

To make matters worse, an increasing number of Bermudians are finding themselves being made "redundant".

Those workers who have tried to complain to the Department of Immigration find themselves up against a brick wall. They can get no satisfaction — that is, even when or if they can get to see the Chief Immigration Officer.

By several statements he has made recently, Sir John Sharpe, Minister for Labour and Home Affairs (which includes Immigration), has demonstrated his complete indifference to the plight of the Bermudian workers.

In fact, on one occasion, he was quoted as saying that the sight of unemployed Bermudians might encourage those still employed to work harder at their jobs.

The UBP premier, John Swan, has also made several public statements, in which he not only promises an increase in the numbers

of foreign workers, but demands that Bermudian workers should "help" the foreigners as much as possible.

The fact that the majority of these immigrant workers are white and the majority of Bermudian workers affected are black, makes the problem even more serious.

Resentment and anger are building up in the local Bermudian work force. And, in most cases, that anger is directed against the foreign worker.

But that foreigner is not the villain of the piece. The real enemies are Bermudian — the black Bermudian Premier and the white Bermudian Minister of Labour and Home Affairs and their bosses!

They are the ones who are pursuing policies and making decisions in Cabinet that are creating a dangerous, potentially explosive situation.

However long-suffering the Bermudian worker may be, there comes a time when he/she has had enough. That point in time is rapidly coming closer.

Obviously, the UBP Government (which only represents the big business interests) does not care about the seriousness of the situation. Or perhaps it believes that punitive labour legislation and a well-trained Bermuda Regiment and Police Force will be able to solve all problems?

CSO: 3298/888

BERMUDA

BIU SCORES PLP DISSIDENTS FOR WEAKENING OPPOSITION TO UBP

Problems at PLP Conference

Hamilton THE WORKERS VOICE in English 14 Jun 85 pp 2, 6

[Alvin Williams column "The Other Alternative"]

[Excerpts]

Though the former PLP dissidents and their supporters have a democratic right to form themselves into a separate political party, we on the opposition side (and by that, I include those former PLP members, since their recent statements would indicate that they will still oppose the ruling UBP government) must not delude ourselves into thinking that this is a victory, or will result in a victory in the long term for one faction or the other.

If this is a victory, it is a victory of egoism, blindness, fence-sitting and pride for the leaders in the Party and, for its supporters and potential supporters, it is a victory of confusion, frustration and apathy.

FRUSTRATED PEACEMAKERS

As a delegate to the last PLP conference (which was to deal with the dissidents) it has become clear to me, in retrospect, that such a mechanism as had existed within the PLP had been seriously eroded, to the point where there was a complete breakdown in communications, with the resultant formation of a number of small blocs within the Party.

Looking back now (and in the light of recent happenings) I have come to the conclusion that perhaps the Delegates' Conference might not have been the best vehicle to bring about a resolution to the very difficult conflict, between the PLP parliamentarians and top functionaries of the Party.

Though there were some among the dele-

gates who would have cheerfully hung the dissidents, the majority had wanted somehow to find a formula to bring about unity.

Despite the talk about the sanctity of the PLP Constitution, the 1984 Delegates' Conference was held in an extraordinary situation. We had two competing groups, in conflict with each other, with different priorities and ideas of what the 1984 Delegates' Conference was supposed to achieve.

QUESTION OF LEADERSHIP

For the dissidents and their supporters, it was a question of the leadership of the Party. But they failed to put their views over effectively when they appeared before the delegates.

From the Party officials' point of view, it was a clear case of a violation of the PLP Constitution by the dissidents, in their call for a new leader of the Party.

In the middle were most of the delegates charged with bringing about a resolution to the conflict. And that is where, I believe, we had the wrong vehicle for bringing about such a resolution.

A new environment should have been created, in which there would have had to have been a substantial compromise on interests, on the part of both groups.

WASHING DIRTY LINEN

The dissidents would have had to admit to the PLP members that they had indeed set

out to overthrow the leadership, and they would have had to say why they wanted a change and why, in their view, it could be achieved under the present PLP Constitution.

The leadership of the PLP would have had to accept that, apart from the deliberate leak of confidential minutes of a PLP meeting,

that the dissidents had every right to voice their democratic opinion on the leadership of the PLP.

Also, they would have had to admit that, because of this open conflict, there was a question of leadership that had to be addressed.

Strategy Boomerangs

Hamilton THE WORKERS VOICE in English 28 Jun 85 pp 2, 6

[Open Letter by Phil Perinchief: "Now We Lay Them Down to Sleep..."]

[Text]

Let's face the truth dissidents, Independents, Bermuda National Democratic Party, or whatever you wish to call yourselves. You've failed.

You attempted a badly planned, ill-timed premature palace coup and were met with strong resistance; out-manouvered, rounded up, tried, found guilty and thrown over the fortress walls by the Palace guards, into the political moat, where you now lie broken, dis-united and confused about what to do and where to go.

Unlike Fidel Castro, history will not absolve you. You will be out-distanced and left in the dirt by the very PLP leadership you attempted to depose. The ruling UBP will use you in a shameful manner.

What progressive programmes, over and beyond those espoused by the PLP and BIU do they intend to implement?

Let's cut the sham. These dissidents (or whatever), have placed the popularity of personalities before the pressing issues, and therein lies their downfall. Popularity contests and ornamental politics are the province of John Swan's dying era.

Their focus is the middle-class element in our society. These dissidents (or whatever) hold the working class in the PLP Central Committee and Bermuda in contempt and would have nothing to do with them, until a general or a bye-election was called. This attitude, despite the fact that they came, by and large, from this very class.

"CHILDISH" CAMPAIGN

But let's attempt to give some legitimacy

to this Bermuda National Democratic Party's (or whatever) views. They want change. How far left, on any given issue can they ideologically go? Further than the PLP?

How far to the right, on any given issue, can they fascistically go? Further than the ruling UBP? How far can a fledgling group of disorganised people like these stretch themselves, from left to right, without snapping in the middle? The PLP and UBP find no difficulty in occupying the centre, when it is expedient to do so.

Then where is there a place for these people, if the field appears saturated and well-occupied by the PLP and UBP, and they are not representing views espoused by the former Black Beret Cadre and the Bermuda Workers Socialist Party?

The point is, the Bermuda National Democratic Party (or whatever) will always be the "meat" within a sandwich, formed and controlled on either side by the UBP and PLP.

This group of frustrated, misguided people can only be "an opposition within an opposition" and thus a tool of the ruling UBP. They can only retard and set back the progressive movement in this country, made over the last 20 to 25 years. Dr. Gordon, etc., would turn over in their graves!

Embarrassing the PLP has no political merit. This group is simply focusing, as a third presence (they will never be a force) on the wrong enemy. What good ensues from an opposition battling another opposition, whilst the real culprit (the UBP) sits on the sidelines, clapping his hand, licking his chops, and occasionally fanning the fire between the antagonists, whenever it appears it may go out?

BERMUDA

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: PLP SCHISM, BY-ELECTION CONTENDERS

Pembroke PLP Candidate

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 17 Jun 85 pp 1, 5

[Excerpt]

Former radio personality Mr. Gerald Daniels was announced yesterday as the Progressive Labour Party candidate in the July 11 by-election in Pembroke West.

Mr. Daniels' candidature was announced at the PLP's annual Fathers' Day Luncheon at the Hamilton Princess.

Mr. Daniels, the former chief Bermuda Industrial Union shop steward at the Bermuda Broadcasting Company during last summer's strike, said one of the things he will emphasise is the lack of broadcast communications on the Island.

The 44-year-old candidate was host of the ZBM talk show Morning Line as well as Gospel Corner and was a member of the BIU negotiating team during talks with

BBC management during the strike.

Mr. Daniels, now a supervisor at the Co-op supermarket, said: "There are serious national problems to be addressed, including communications, crime, drugs and traffic congestion.

"There is a serious lack of communicating among ourselves and attempting to solve some of the problems among ourselves, as well as a lack of outlets to help people get things off their chests," the Pembroke-born candidate, now living in Hamilton Parish, said.

"That opportunity has now been severed by the closure of many of our broadcasting facilities and a decline in the amount of local programming," he said.

UBP Primary Winner

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 21 Jun 85 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts]

Dentist Dr. David Dyer scored an upset victory last night over rivals Senator the Hon. Gerald Simons and re-actor Mr. William Lusher to win the Pembroke West primary and the right to represent the United Bermuda Party in the July 11 by-election.

Dr. Dyer received 348

votes, defeating the Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs Senator Simons with 263 votes and Mr. Lusher with 73.

The vote was a clear triumph for the 44-year-old dentist who encountered direct Government pressure not to run in the primary and who spoke against Government policies.

Dr. Dyer attributed his victory to his independent and sometimes critical stand against Government policies during the primary campaign and to the fact that he ran in last year's Pembroke West primary which was won by Dr. Clarence Terceira.

When asked if his criticisms of Government policy helped him, Dr. Dyer said:

"I was reflecting the views of Pembroke West residents. That surely is the role of the representative.

"I think the vote demonstrates that the general public have a great deal of concern about the policies that have been enacted. They would really like to have their opinions voiced."

Referring to roadblocks that hampered his campaign such as Dr. Terceira's reported withdrawal of promised support and Government pressure not to run,

Dr. Dyer said: "That possibly could have had a bearing on the final outcome. People like to see fair play."

Senator Simons, who registered more than 500 voters, was clearly stunned by the result. When asked for a comment on the outcome, he said: "I wish I had a statement prepared. I don't know. The voters have spoken."

The ambitious Senator had been touted as the favourite to win the primary but last night it was clear from the beginning of the vote count that the winning trend was for Dr. Dyer.

He denied the interpretation that he may have lost the vote because he was viewed as a member of the "Swan Team," a reference to being Premier the Hon. John Swan's man in the primary.

Following the vote, Dr. Dyer was called to the telephone to speak with Premier

Swan. He later said the Premier congratulated him on his victory.

Dr. Dyer also reported that the Premier said "he would be interested in finding out the results of my canvassing."

UBP executive director Mr. Ed Williams said after the vote that some healing would have to take place among the constituency's party members.

"There's always a need for healing after primaries," he said. "But it's easy this time with a credible candidate like David Dyer."

Mr. Williams said the party workers now had to get into an election mode for the July 11 by-election against Progressive Labour Party candidate Mr. Gerald Daniels and Independent candidate Mr. Roger Russell.

Over 900 people were registered to vote in the Primary. Dr. Dyer won nearly 51 percent of the votes cast.

Swan on PLP, Schism

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 25 Jun 85 p 2

[Text]

Opposition division has damaged the democratic leadership of the Country, Premier the Hon. John Swan claimed in the House of Assembly on Friday.

Speaking during a rowdy end-of-day motion to adjourn, the Premier made the comment after Independent MP Mr. Austin Thomas challenged him to call an election and said that Government's Front Bench did not like Dr. David Dyer's Primary victory in Pembroke West.

Rising to Mr. Thomas' taunts that put Opposition members in a boisterous mood, Premier Swan fired back that the Opposition had "raped" the Country of direction, confusing its supporters by Party division.

He said internal Opposition rigidity that had led to the split within the Progressive Labour Party ranks was "holding the Country to ransom."

"What about the people?" he asked.

The Premier said the Opposition was the victim of its own rigidity.

"They have defied every law of democracy," he said. "When they speak, they divide themselves.

"We (in the United Bermuda Party) have differences. There's no doubt about that. But we are capable of reconciliation. There is no division between our ranks."

The Premier said he was proud that UBP members could criticise each other and have open Primary contests.

"Maybe the Opposition needs to open itself up a bit," he said. "They shouldn't hide behind a selective system."

Mr. Swan said the Opposition thought that the only way problems could be solved was to have an election. But he said a Party divided cannot run a Country.

"And that's why it saddens me to even speak of an election at this time," he said.

Mr. Swan added that the UBP "carried more and more of the burden (of leadership) because the Opposition neglected their flock."

The Premier said that positive work in the Country was being distracted by "linguistic gymnastics and political bigotry."

"The real problem lies on that side of the House," he said pointing at the Opposition benches.

Mr. Thomas' speech began as a condemnation of Bermuda's political leadership and ended with a chest-thumping challenge for an election. He said Bermuda had developed a political system that fostered personality cults.

"Bermudians are saying we're getting fed up with this kind of thing," he said. "We're not promoting some individuals, but people to promote the best interests of the Country."

It was important to have people with integrity and individual opinion running for public office.

He said the recent UBP Primary vote in Pembroke West had sent a clear signal to the UBP leadership. He characterised Dr. Dyer as a man with the courage of his convictions who spoke what he thought, a disposition which the voters rewarded.

He criticised and ridiculed the Government's Front Bench for not congratulating Dr. Dyer on his Primary victory that morning — usually the first thing MPs deal with on the daily Legislative agenda.

"The nitty gritty of it is that the Front Bench didn't like what went down last

night," he said to cries of "No, No" from some members.

"Someone sent a message to the John Swan clan. That is why they didn't say anything this morning."

He said the Premier should have "jumped up" first thing to congratulate Dr. Dyer.

Mr. Thomas said he understood there was an election plan for November. And he said the Premier had some more primaries lined up. There was one planned for Smith's Parish, he said, "to get rid of Jim Woolridge," (the sacked Tourism Minister and now outspoken Government critic).

"But the Premier has been stopped in his tracks," he said.

With the House in an uproar, Mr. Thomas said the four Independent MPs were "ready to take the risk of an election and we challenge you."

"This community is ready to speak," he said. "This community is saying we have had enough. We want women and men whose 'Yea' is 'Yea' and whose 'Nay' is 'Nay', and who are not going to play games with us."

"The Premier is hurting," Mr. Thomas said.

The Pembroke East MP ended his speech asking UBP backbenchers, some of whom have been openly critical of Government in recent months, to "Stand tall for what's right. Speak what ought to be spoken."

More PLP Defections

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 26 Jun 85 p 1

[Text]

Forty members and supporters of the Progressive Labour Party last week severed their ties with the party and joined the Independent Members for Change.

Long-time PLP stalwarts Mrs. Doreen Lighthourne and Mr. Clyde Bassett, candidates in the 1983 election, were among those who quit the party.

Independent Members for Change spokeswoman Mrs. Kathleen Bell said yesterday she had sent the list of 40 ex-members to PLP chairman Mr. Alex Scott on June 19.

She said: "They wanted to tell the PLP they had resigned from the party and were supporters of the Members for Change and the structuring of a new party."

PLP membership cards were returned to Mr. Scott as "a symbolic gesture", said Mrs. Bell, as some of the members had allowed their subscriptions to lapse and they all have been supporters of the inde-

pendent MPs since the PLP split last year.

She said some of the supporters were founding members of the PLP and "hard workers for the party".

She said she did not know what the proportion of the total PLP membership the 40 represented.

Mrs. Bell said support for the Independents was growing among PLP members, United Bermuda Party members and voters who had never belonged to a party.

"After the Pembroke West by-election we will be having a two-day workshop to compile all the information we have gathered to get a clear idea of our support," she said.

Mr. Scott said he had received 34 membership cards adding the figure was misleading.

"The majority of them weren't paid-up members and some of their cards had expired in 1984 and 1983," he said. "It's not a

broad cross-section of the party -- many of them are relatives of the independent MPs. It's basically a small group."

He said he was not worried about the loss of memberships, noting the party had picked up 450 new members in an election drive over the last six months.

"It's always sad to lose members," he said. "But this is not a hard core of the active list and there are only a handful of long-standing members."

Break in UBP House Ranks

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 27 Jun 85 p 2

[Excerpt]

Two Progressive Labour Party Senators broke ranks with their colleagues in the House of Assembly yesterday in a surprise move and voted against tough new penalties for firearm offences.

Independent and Government Senators chastised the three PLP representatives for raising objections to the bill because it undermined unified Senate resolution necessary to fight increased crime.

While Opposition Senators made it clear during the debate that they were against possession of firearms, they were critical of the mandatory terms of imprisonment contained in the bill.

After more than an hour of debate, the bill was passed with two PLP Senators objecting and the third not voting.

The Opposition objections surprised Government Senators who expected the same all-party agreement which had highlighted the passage of the bill two weeks ago in the House of Assembly.

CSO: 3298/889

BERMUDA

UNION ORGAN'S EDITOR WINS SETTLEMENT FROM HOTELIERS

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 5 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

The Hotel Employers of Bermuda (HEB) has made a \$20,000 out-of-court settlement with Workers Voice editor and MP Dr. Barbara Ball, a central defendant in a 1983 Supreme Court case against the Bermuda Industrial Union.

The HEB had planned to lodge an appeal after Chief Justice the Hon. Sir James Astwood ruled that no case has been made against Dr. Ball.

Owners took the Union to court over a sympathy walk-out by hotel workers in 1981 in support of striking Government and hospital workers. It claimed the walk-out, which closed hotels down, was organised and illegal.

Shortly after the case ended, the HEB said it would lodge an appeal in an attempt to recover court costs and a section of the judgment concerning Dr. Ball.

HEB president, Mr. Gordon Asbury, was not available for comment last night.

BIU chief, Mr. Ottiwell Simmons, declined to comment on the settlement.

He said the decision did not involve lawyers and settlement negotiations between the HEB and the BIU had been "quite informal."

Dr. Ball said she was pleased with the result.

"At least the Union has got some easement because they've been paying the expenses. The cheque was made out to the BIU on my behalf — the lawyer's fees have gone to the BIU so it's only fair that the money goes to them."

The \$20,000 will go into the BIU strike and dispute fund that was used to finance the costs of the court case. According to the latest edition of *The Workers Voice*, the trial cost the Union \$91,000.

Hotel owners lost their controversial court battle in 1983 to obtain an injunction banning sympathy strikes in the industry.

But the Chief Justice granted a declaration sought by HEB that the 1981 walk-out was Union-organised and illegal.

The owners alleged that the strike was called by the Union and its principal officers, Ottiwell Simmons, Eldridge Brimmer, Helena (Molly) Burgess, Kenneth Pilgrim, Carolyn Franklin and Dr. Barbara Ball.

BERMUDA

OPPOSITION HITS BROADCAST POLICY, CALLS FOR RESIGNATIONS

PLP Protest

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 2 Jul 85 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Opposition Leader Mrs. Lois Browne Evans yesterday called for the resignation of all broadcasting commissioners and complained they had failed to enforce political regulations.

She said the Progressive Labour Party would now lodge a formal protest over Radio VSB's refusal to air free political programmes during the final weeks of the Pembroke West by-election.

Mrs. Browne Evans said: "The negligence of the Broadcasting Commissioners on the matter of enforcing Political Broadcasting Directions, and ensuring the health of Bermuda's broadcasting industry in general, has been so gross, that we feel that few would disagree that all the Broadcasting Commissioners should join their chairman in resigning from their positions."

Broadcasting Commission chairman Dr. Stanley Ratteray resigned last week but a permanent replacement for the post has not yet been appointed. Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs, Industry, and Technology, Senator the Hon. Gerald Simons, confirmed last night that Dr. Ratteray had submitted his resignation "for personal reasons". He said that deputy chairman of the

Commission Mr. Lawson Mapp would fill the position temporarily.

However, when contacted by *The Royal Gazette* last night, Mr. Mapp declared that he had "not heard a squeak" from Cabinet about the job shuffle.

"I haven't been asked to fill the position," Mr. Mapp said. "No-one has contacted me about what's going on."

Mrs. Browne-Evans told a news conference: "Such a sensitive matter as the right of the public to hear political views during election periods should not be left to a blatantly partisan body whose membership includes UBP election candidates and former party national or branch chairmen."

"The time has come for the Broadcasting Commissioners to be restructured along the lines of the Electoral Boundaries Commission, which has bipartisan membership, and does not suffer so much from the taint of political partisanship."

"The time has come for Government, through both its apathetic Minister of Industry and Technology, and its hitherto impotent Broadcasting Commissioners, to take a leadership role in restoring the health of Ber-

muda's broadcasting and television industry.

"Government's mismanagement of the situation has led to an abysmal void of educational, cultural and community service programming, and the public has been the big loser."

She said the PLP deplored the consistent pattern of wilful negligence by Government in failing to enforce powers under broadcasting laws, which had led to an erosion of Bermuda's right to a free flow of information over the air waves.

She said the general public was now being denied the chance to hear the unfiltered views of various political parties and candidates during an election period.

She added: "At the time of the initial controversy surrounding this matter, during last year's Pembroke West by-election campaign, both the Broadcasting Commissioners and the Attorney General actively undermined the spirit of the Political Broadcasting Directions."

She said one broadcasting company had insisted it was merely objecting to being forced to air political broadcasts free of charge during the two-week period between nomination and polling days during a by-election.

She said the PLP would protest to the Broadcasting Commissioners, Government and the Attorney General seeking a ruling on the decision, as well as investigating the legality of the ban.

Party chairman Mr. Alex Scott said: "Youngsters who are being told to follow rules and regulations are being set a bad example.

"We are asking people to remember this flouting of the rules and vote accordingly on July 11."

"At the time the Progressive Labour Party warned that the rights of the public to hear the views of election candidates should not be subject to the whims of any individual station manager, and that any undermining of the Broadcasting Directions' intent would only be the thin end of the wedge.

"Time has proven this to be true, with broadcasting stations now refusing to carry any such broadcasts."

Further Criticism

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 4 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

Progressive Labour Party Senator David Allen yesterday hit out at the Government and the Attorney General for "ignoring regulations at a high level" and their interpretation of the law concerning free political broadcasting.

Senator Allen was commenting in the Senate yesterday following the refusal of the radio stations to air free political advertising.

And he also called for the reconstitution of the Broadcasting Commission as a bipartisan body.

He said in the Senate he had met with Attorney General Mr. Saul Froomkin a year ago to ask him about the regulation that says politicians "shall" be allowed free advertising.

"I was told at times in law 'shall' means 'may' and 'may' means 'shall'," he said.

"Government is ignoring regulations at a high level over the Broadcasting Commissioners and the political broadcasting furore," he said.

The Minister responsible for Telecommunications, Senator the Hon. Gerald Simons, replied that the Broadcasting Commission was not disorganised and that they had met to discuss the free advertising issue and would be making a decision soon.

Sen. Simons said he had kept out of the

dispute because it would not have been appropriate to get involved in view of his "recent political activity". Sen. Simons ran unsuccessfully in the UBP primary for the Pembroke West by-election.

In a press release issued yesterday, he said Mr. Froomkin had determined that there is no provision in the Political Broadcasting Directions which can compel a broadcast station to air political advertisements.

When asked to comment on the PLP's call for the resignation of all the Commissioners, he said: "I have no comment on that. What can I say?"

Yesterday, Broadcasting Commission deputy chairman Mr. Lawson Mapp said he knew he automatically took over if the chairman resigned, but he said he did not have official word Dr. Stanley Ratteray had resigned until yesterday.

Senator Simons said: "There was a meeting with the 11 members of the commission last Thursday and if Mr. Mapp had attended he would have known Dr. Ratteray had resigned."

When asked why he resigned, Dr. Ratteray said yesterday: "I have no comment to make other than I resigned for personal reasons. I have nothing further to say."

23 August 1985

BERMUDA

SWAN DISCUSSES PLANS FOR, FUNDING OF DRUGS AGENCY

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 22 Jun 85 p 4

[Unattributed interview with Premier John Swan under the headline "Premier Swan Answers Questions"; date, place and name(s) of interviewer(s) not specified]

[Excerpt]

Q: When will the National Alcohol and Drug Agency be formed and does it require new legislation?

Premier: The agency itself will be a totally independent body. Obviously it will require legislation. It is not likely that we will get it done before the summer recess, which should be coming up sometime shortly. I would suspect that when we reopen Parliament we would be on our way to introduce the legislation. It will be one of the items in the Throne Speech — a commitment by the Government to proceed with it and that will be the main issue. But, in the meantime, that does not stop us from getting on with the non-legislative side and also get some of the people together that will serve on it and so forth. It can be operative without there being a legislative or legal instrument at first. So nothing will hold us back from our initiatives.

Q: Will Dr. Archibald's recommendations be given first priority as far as Government expenditure is

concerned? Will you go to the House of Assembly for additional funds?

Premier: Well, we're not going to the House for additional funds because the coffers are dry. What we're going to do is shift some of the priorities within our budget. We're looking at that right now. In other words, we're not going to run the Country into debt. What we're going to do is tell some people "You can't have this because we've got to do that." It's a shift in priorities. We recognise that to do some of these things that require social prioritising, some other things will have to be neglected. I can't be more specific because it's just a week since we had the debate, but I can tell you already you've got commitment for a committee of Government to sit down and to assess the reprioritising so that we can get on with some of these things.

Real commitment in any programme like this, I'm convinced, will come from more public commitment and public input and pub-

lic concern because it will show Government that it has a body out there that is prepared to act and support the initiatives that are necessary.

Q: I am concerned about declaring war on drugs because it implies violent action. Also it differentiates between drugs and alcohol and tobacco which implies a double standard. The attitude which leads to the consumption and sale of drugs and alcohol and tobacco is the same even though alcohol and tobacco are legal.

Premier: I think it's a valid point. That is the very point that one of the students at St. George's Secondary put me in a corner on and I agree with you there is a fundamental conflict. How do you separate the drugs and alcohol, except that drugs are illegal in our society and alcohol is accepted as a legal facility in our society. Society itself, on a consensus basis, has not taken the position that says that we should make alcohol illegal. That's number one. Number two, my main emphasis on

declaring war on drugs themselves was on those people who traffic in drugs, and you cannot get them without taking action. And that's got to be positive action, because they are the traffickers, and I said they are the people who hold society to ransom by the trafficking of drugs itself, and the effect it has on various people who are subjected to it. I agree with you, there is a fundamental, irreconcilable moral issue that the legislative facility of our society, through the consensus of our democracy, has not addressed itself to, and Government is made of laws through the consensus of its people.

Q: You said we would have to wait for the Throne Speech before the National Alcohol and Drugs Agency is appointed. I don't think we can wait that long. There are various groups who have drugs programmes already running or which could be implemented, but these groups need coordination. Could Government provide this coordination?

Premier: I said that in order to produce a legal instrument for NADA it had to go before the House. That we could produce, though, the non-legal entity now. There is nothing to prevent us from doing it right now. We have Cal Ming sitting next to you, who is very much involved with Dr. Archibald's development and the report itself. I'm sure it would be crazy for us to let Cal get out of our grip, to wander off into something else. Obviously there are things that need to be put in place, but we are not going to waste time on this one here. It is something that we do consider a very high

priority. On the question of funds, what I simply said was that there were no extra funds, but we would shift the priorities with the funds that we already have now to get some things done.

That has started already. As I said to you, the committee has already started assessing Government's prioritisation. When you deal with the public's money, as much as the public wants you to act, they want to make sure that you spend it as wisely as possible, so we have to sort of do it judiciously, but we are already doing things that will provide some facilities.

Q: You talk about war — there could be a riot in Bermuda, would you like that? If we are going to change the law you better change your Premier.

(No answer)

Q: I was just listening to this young man here, he's just a little sort of fluster, but he spoke the truth. We don't respect the ability of the Bermudian. One of the problems that face this Country is that we deny a race of rights, deny them freedom of speech, prevent them from exercising their abilities and talents. Bermudians coming back from abroad find foreigners are doing their jobs.

Premier: What we deal with is a question of perception and how people feel that society is being ordered up. I agree with you there are frustrations out there.

I think that for once we've got more and more people who seem to have a genuine commitment to address themselves to some of the issues and the problems. People are no longer saying, "It's someone else's

problem, put it over there and it will go away."

The "go-away" mentality, I think, has dissipated in our community. My friends, I offer a great deal of hope to Bermuda, which is something that very few places in the world actually have for their people.

I am very optimistic about Bermuda, and the problems that we will address.

Q: Does Government have anything planned to communicate internationally Bermuda's position in terms of a deterrent to drug trafficking?

Premier: We actually work with Interpol, and with the various agencies of the United States Government and the British Government and the Canadian Government with respect to drug trafficking.

I think that if we enact some of the laws that have been recommended by the Archibald Report itself, that in itself is a statement, because we've been one of the few places on this side of the world that takes such a hard position on drugs. The Minister for Health and Social Services has taken a very commendable position that says, "If you commit crimes that relate to drug trafficking in Bermuda, and you go to jail, don't expect to get out until you serve your full sentence."

And I think there has been a tradition of the drug traffickers saying: "Well, if I get caught and I get 10 years, maybe I'll only serve five — maybe I'll only serve four — or get out on probation and so forth. It's not what the sentence is, it's what the end result is."

These are messages that filter out into the outside

world. We now have about 15 people, not nationals, in our jail at this time. And all of them are in for drug trafficking.

Q.: The other part really to the question is that the lady secretary gave a statement to the press saying that they would certainly confiscate assets, property, or anything in relation to any sentence handed down. If there is this communication between international agencies, would this extend to their assistance in this way?

Premier: I think what we've talked about is, first of all, freeze anybody's assets if a person is caught trafficking drugs. Obviously you can only operate within your jurisdiction. It would be very hard to operate outside of your jurisdiction unless you can get a court order against those assets which is the normal thing,

which we've had happen here. The procedure that these people went through with the Attorney General of that country and the Attorney General of this Country based upon a court order. So there is a procedure, legally, in which one can seek to get a redress in the court itself but it is a rather cumbersome process. But, hopefully, the drug trafficker will realise that if he's caught — particularly caught in Bermuda and particularly if he's Bermudian, and we're only 56,000 people, that he knows that members of his family and whoever else he's given it to, it can be confiscated.

I was just recently reading an article that says the big problem with the drug traffickers today is that they don't know what to do with the money they've got. A lot of it sits in banks and so forth so that's what we have to go after.

CSO: 3298/891

BERMUDA

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT WARNING--Bermuda imported 7-1/2 percent more goods than it exported in 1984 and had a \$21 million deficit that year, Finance Minister the Hon. Clarence James told the House of Assembly yesterday. He added that if the trend continued the Island's balance of payments deficit would widen rapidly, dissipating Bermuda's limited stock of foreign reserves. But Dr. James said that he believed there was every prospect the balance of payments position would not deteriorate further this year. Dr. James noted that the \$21 million deficit in 1984 was easily outweighed by the cumulative surplus of almost \$150 million built up from 1980-83. "Of some concern is the trend evidenced by the 1984 figures, since the deficit is the result of exports growing by only 4-1/4 percent while imports grew by 11-3/4 percent," said Dr. James. [Excerpts] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 22 Jun 85 p 1]

ARSON PROBE--An arson investigation is under way following a fire in a Bermuda College room. Graffiti was scrawled on the walls of the building and on a blackboard. Spray-painted words on the outside wall of the block, which houses the drafting room, warned: "Job No 1. I shall burn the whole society. P.S. You shall see my work again." The drawings also said: "Babylon system shall burn." Scrawled on the blackboard was "You will never catch me! Ha Ha Ha." Student drawings, valves and gas pipes were damaged and there was some other smoke and water damage in the room. Police Community Relations Officer Sgt. John Instone said that the room had been forcibly entered and a cupboard by the fire. More graffiti was found on the walls of the nearby National Stadium. [Excerpts] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 5 Jul 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/891

BOLIVIA

'SECTARIAN INTEREST' SEEN BEHIND SLOW VOTE COUNT

PY181845 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jul 85

["Panorama" station commentary]

[Text] The official vote count is going slowly. It seems to be obvious that there is an interest among certain sectors in trying to obstruct the electoral process, whose final stage took place on Sunday, 14 July.

The number of accusations that are being made and the constant obstructions seem to aim at delaying the vote count with the obvious intention of changing the schedule of the process. The National Electoral Court should be extremely careful in this situation. Elections are no pastimes and cannot be termed superfluous luxuries.

We believe that the citizenry went to the ballot boxes in a civic and patriotic spirit, seeking a substantial change in the government policy. Therefore, the desire of the nation must not be frustrated. On 6 August the nation wants to see the inauguration of a government that will confront the economic crisis that is making the country powerless.

The political parties that have lost the elections must not continue putting obstacles on the road because they know very well that, despite all the efforts they may make, it is now very difficult to change the results. To this should be added that the general results make it foreseeable that the election of our rulers will be made in congress. It is, therefore, necessary to continue pleading for patriotism and to allow the Electoral Court to work without having to face difficult setbacks. The will of the people should not be subject to whims or sectarian interests. The country demands generosity, prudence, and a will to respect the laws.

CSO: 3348/823-B

23 August 1985

BRAZIL

INDUSTRY MINISTER DISCUSSES U.S. TRADE POLICY

PY310130 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Jul 85 p 12

[By Paulo Rancis]

[Text] New York -- After discussing the problems that Brazilian shoe, steel, and coffee exports are confronting, Industry and Commerce Minister Roberto Gusmao will return to Brazil on 27 July. The minister, who held talks in Washington, has realized that the U.S. Government, that is, the Executive Branch, does not advocate any openly protectionist policy against Brazil. On the contrary, Reagan supports world economic integration on the basis of private initiative and free markets.

Protectionism has been supported by the groups that have been jeopardized by competitors selling at lower prices in countries like Japan, Brazil, the ROK, etc., and by Reagan's high dollar rate policy. This policy has had devastating effects on U.S. exports. These groups concentrate on pressing Congress. The House and 1/3 of the Senate must be reelected in 1986. Therefore, lawmakers now need the help and votes of the U.S. sectors threatened by foreign competition.

The U.S. Executive Branch has become more clearly aware that many products sold to the United States, particularly from Brazil, the ROK, and Taiwan, are actually produced by U.S. multinational companies, and not by foreign competitors. The Reagan administration believes that the low price of imports (import prices are low because of the high dollar rate) compensates for the skyrocketing U.S. balance of trade deficits.

Minister Gusmao is a man with experience in public affairs and in the handling of private companies. Therefore, he knows what happens on both sides of the fence and he is not impressed by the simplistic patriotic analyses that are routinely included in the statements like those released by Itamaraty.

If the Brazilian Government wants new money, it must offer a favorable atmosphere for foreign investment, so that such investment may become integrated into Brazilian society. This has been done in Japan, where the nationalist doctrine is based on a realistic principle, that is, on economic power.

Contrary to what official reports here said, the U.S.-Japanese balance of trade did not register an annual \$30-billion surplus favorable to Japan. The actual surplus was \$10 billion, because the remaining \$20 billion has gone to U.S.

multinational company branches in Japan. This country has allowed even foreign insurance companies to operate in its territory.

These matters are not taken into account in the sentimentalist policy which seeks to support the state and which is regarded, within Brazil, as a progressive policy. For example, Brazil should take into account an issue that has been the object of intense debate here. High-tech industries have cut personnel cost to 10 percent. That is, the low cost of manpower, which is one of the reasons multinational companies wanted to set up branches abroad, is becoming less important. High-tech industries do not need massive human resources but highly trained personnel not easily found in the Third World. High-tech industries have flourished in rich, developed countries ranging from the United States to Western Europe and Japan.

CSO: 3342/234/F

BRAZIL

BUSINESSMEN ASSESS FIRST 100 DAYS OF SARNEY'S GOVERNMENT

PY192357 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 16 Jul 85 pp 1, 2

[Text] Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo (DAILY POST)--How fares the Sarney government, now that the first 100 days are past?

The DAILY POST asked businessmen that question in an informal poll to take the pulse of the business community now that the administration has had time to settle in and begin to work on the problems facing the nation. The following are the replies:

Edward Rugeroni, president, Alcan do Brasil, Sao Paulo: "Our company continues to invest 50-to-60 million dollars a year in Brazil. In our sector there was substantial growth during the first quarter of 1985. But the question for the government is really the internal market. They're waiting for it to take off and it hasn't. I think the Tancredo Neves tragedy was partly to blame. It was as if the country shut down for the first half of the year. I think the government is hoping to regain momentum during the second half. As far as inflation goes, I'm loving to see those numbers around 7 and 8 percent a month. It's quite a trick, and I hope they can keep it up."

William Meissner, lawyer, Rio de Janeiro: "I wouldn't say that a 'moral revolution' has taken place, but I am encouraged by what appears to be a significant and broad-based change in mood. People now expect the government to act correctly and to be more responsible to the general public. Complaints about and repudiation of what appear to be misdeeds, improper use of power and irresponsibility are voiced daily in the press and elsewhere. People seem no longer to accept passively the "total impunity" about which a few helpless voices expressed concern in the past. I think this is encouraging and positive because it indicates an underlying faith in the government and in the system--however new it may be--which puts people into power. One could have subjected a deep-rooted skepticism, mistrust and lack of interest on the part of the people after 20 years of authoritarian rule. That has not been the case, and it can only be attributed to a substantial effort on the part of the new government to face broader responsibilities and exert great efforts to live within certain limitations of power to which institutions in a democratic society are necessarily subjected. And this effort could only be effective if it found (which it appears to have found) a broad-based resonance in the public."

Ronald Goldberg, marketing director, Sears do Brasil, Sao Paulo: "Foreign investment this year has been reduced in Brazil, mainly because companies are evaluating the policy direction of the new government and they have found a certain amount of confusion. The apparent lack of direction of President Sarney and his ministers has led to a certain sense of insecurity. Foreign companies are directing their resources to other markets while Brazilian companies which might be interested in joint ventures are keeping theirs in domestic money markets for the time being."

Helena Backlund-Palm, marketing director, Brazil-Sweden Chamber of Commerce for Sao Paulo: "For several years Swedish companies made few investments in Brazil because of the recession. But investment picked up starting last year and has continued this year. There is a climate of optimism, and it is not just because of signs the economy is improving. I would say there is also optimism because of the coming of the New Republic and that has definitely reflected itself in increased investment."

Arthur S. Moura, consultant, Mendes Jr., Rio de Janeiro: "President Sarney has demonstrated many traits that indicate he is not just a conventional politician. He appears to be firmly convinced that the higher you go the more dependent you become on others. Thus he has engaged an extraordinarily broad cross-section of national leadership in frank dialogue. The result can only be a feeling of 'we did this ourselves' when achievements are registered. He also seems to believe that simply relying on the authority of his position isn't the best way of getting people to do their best and follow his direction. Finally, he operates on the basis of 'what is' rather than 'what ought to be.' I am convinced that he will succeed because he has credibility, he works hard and he gives the impression of having fun doing his job."

David Benadof, president, American Chamber of Commerce for Sao Paulo: "After three months of the new government, I feel we have a little more confidence in the handling of the economy. President Sarney is taking charge, which, in itself, is a reassuring sign. Although we do not necessarily endorse price controls, one benefit they have had is to break inflationary expectations. Now, with more measures it may be possible to keep inflation under control. If President Sarney gets a break in the negotiation of the foreign debt, then the climate of confidence will be further stimulated. President Sarney is definitely going in the right direction and, overall, I would say the economy is better than it was three months ago."

John Mathews, president of the British Chamber of Commerce of Sao Paulo: "In the kind of businesses with which I have contact, investment decisions are made on a long-term basis. In Brazil the long-term prospects are still good. In terms of the timing of decisions, I would say the current financial and economic problems of Brazil are not worse than they were before the present government took power. However, I would say there is some political uncertainty. That is to say, some uncertainty about the new government's ability to get political backing for its proposals and policies in congress and elsewhere."

Barry Cluck, partner, Deoitte, Haskins and Sells, Rio de Janeiro: "I think you can sum it up in three words--indecisive but trying. They are trying but not really coming up yet with anything."

Guilherme Afif Domingos, president of the Sao Paulo Commercial Association, Sao Paulo: "The government's failure to alter the taxtable in line with inflation is a good indication of where the administration is heading--straight toward continued government meddling in the economy. Of course, the government takes these steps for 'the social welfare,' but in fact it is taking bread out of the mouths of workers. Nor has the government shown any willingness to do away with the spoils system that gives jobs to politicians and technocrats."

Simeira Jacob, president of Grupo Fenicia, Sao Paulo: "It is already quite clear the business class will have to remain vigilant against the encroachments of the state even under the New Republic. In search of easy popularity, the administration has adopted a system of agrarian reform which can only prove inefficient in the long run. In order to make an easy conquest of the working class, the government has begun work on what promises to be a 'quick fix' labor law."

Walter Barelli, director of the Inter-Union Statistical Department, Sao Paulo: "The government has succeeded, so far, in the war against inflation. Where most companies were looking toward 300 percent or even 500 percent inflation for 1985, now they are working with a more tolerable 230 percent to 250 percent and inflation may even turn out to be lower than that. Now the task is to keep inflationary expectations down by maintaining the policy of price controls."

CSO: 3300/42

23 August 1985

BRAZIL

PMDB TO EXAMINE RESULTS OF DIRECTORATES ELECTIONS

PY101727 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Jul 85 p 5

[Excerpts] The National Executive Board of the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] will meet TODAY at 1500 to discuss the regulation for elections in 202 municipalities in light of a resolution recently dictated by the Superior Electoral Court. The main point on the agenda will be the question of coalitions, but the results of the party conventions held on 7 July will also be evaluated. According to PMOB and Chamber of Deputies President Ulysses Guimaraes, the decision to enter into coalitions will be up to the regional directorates in the case of municipalities with more than 1 million inhabitants, and up to the municipal directorates in the case of municipalities with a smaller number of inhabitants. Guimaraes said that the party will give a great deal of freedom, adding that no directives will be given on entering into coalitions with the PFL [Liberal Front Party] or with any other party.

The PMDB president also said that his party is considering holding its conventions to choose candidates for the 15 November municipal elections on 15 August, 2 days before the deadline established by the electoral timetable.

The 7 July conventions held by the PMDB to elect municipal directorates revealed, according to Ulysses Guimaraes, democratic vitality, despite the disturbances that took place. The PMDB president does not believe that those who were defeated last Sunday will leave the party, because some of them love the PMDB and recognize its strength.

During the evaluation of the Recife convention held on 7 July, Justice Minister Fernando Lyra defended the institution of primary elections for all major elections in the country. He thinks that this measure will be important to give the candidates unquestioned representativity, as well as to ensure the preference of the party bases, above any possible accommodations made by the leaderships.

Fernando Lyra agreed that the elections on 7 July represent progress, and attributed the manifestations of violence to the lack of self-control by some people.

CSO: 3342/219

BRAZIL

NSC TO SUBMIT REPORT ON RENEWAL OF CUBAN RELATIONS

FL102200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1945 GMT 10 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 10 Jul (NOTIMEX)--Brazilian President Jose Sarney will receive a report this month, prepared by the National Security Council, on the possibility of renewing diplomatic relations with Cuba, the Foreign Ministry has announced.

The document, released in Itamaraty Palace, assures that this renewal will not provoke negative reactions from the Brazilian Armed Forces which only 1 year ago were not receptive to any type of relations with the Cuban Government of Fidel Castro.

Nevertheless, in some sectors of the armed forces the fear exists that the Cuban Embassy in Brazil could use its diplomatic prerogatives to try to influence Brazilian domestic policy.

For his part, Alberto Betancour Roa, Cuban vice minister of foreign trade [as received], has invited the Brazilian Government to participate in the debate on the Third World foreign debt to be held in Havana 30 July.

According to an official note in response to Betancourt Roa's invitation, the forum best qualified to consider this problem is the Cartagena consensus, which unites 11 Latin American countries in discussing the debt.

The group has met twice and has analyzed the obstacles that the debt has caused in the development of Third World nations.

CSO: 3342/225

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

MONETARY SYSTEM REEORM SCHEDULED--The National Bank will make the final decision on the number of zeroes to be dropped from cruzeiro bills on 1 January 1986. There are two possibilities: to drop three zeroes, thus making things easier for people; or to drop four zeroes, to which the people would take longer to become accustomed. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1555 GMT 11 Jul 85 PY].

IRON EXPORTS--Brazil, the current world leader in iron mineral exports, has decided not to become a member of the International Association of Iron Producers. Brazil, a country that exported a total of 87 million tons of iron in 1984, believes that it will not benefit from belonging to this association, and it cannot agree to the quotas established by it. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1101 GMT 2 Jun 85 PY]

COFFEE TO USSR--From now on, the Soviets will be able to drink Cafe Pele, because the Soluble Coffee Cacique Company of Brazil will send 3,680 tons of soluble coffee by August. The contract -- "which is the greatest ever made by the Cacique Company or by any other coffee export company," according to the 32-year-old commerce director of the Cacique group, Sergio Coimbra -- is worth \$32 million. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Jul 85 p 20 PY]

AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ANGOLA--Brazil and Angola today signed several agreements involving the exchange of educational technology in the fields of information, publicity, legislation, and informatics. Joao Felipe Martins, rector of the Angolan University, stressed the importance of these agreements. He said that this agreement represents a great step in cooperation with Brazil, a country that speaks the same language as ours. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Jul 85 PY]

OIL PRODUCTION FIGURES--It has been reported that despite the fact that some oil wells in the northeastern region have discontinued operations because of the floods, Brazilian daily oil production surpassed 545,000 barrels in the first half of 1985. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Jul 85 PY]

LARGEST OIL DEPOSIT FOUND--Petrobras confirmed yesterday that it has found a gigantic oil basin in Campos. Experts believe its potential to be 2 billion barrels. However, this is not definite. The tests done in the 3-RJS-319 well show production unheard of in Brazil: 15,000 barrels daily, five times more than the average production of the wells in the region. When reporting the news to President Sarney, Mines and Energy Minister Aureliano Chaves said that it will be the most productive well of Brazil. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Jun 85 p 1 PY]

CHEVRON TO SEEK OIL--The U.S. oil company CHEVRON has signed a contract with Petrobras to prospect for oil in a 14,000 square km area in the Maranhao continental shelf. During the first 2 years Chevron will have to invest \$8 million. Afterward, if it still wishes to continue its rights in the area, it will have to dig two wells worth \$5 million each in one year. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1101 GMT 2 Jun 85 PY]

NO SPACE BUDGET CUTS--According to Admiral Jose Maria do Amaral Oliveira, Chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, budget cuts will not delay the launching of four Brazilian satellites by the end of this decade. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 9 Jul 85 PY]

ARAB OPPOSITION TO BEIRUT BOYCOTT--Ambassadors from Arab countries accredited in Brazil today asked the government not to participate in a boycott of Beirut's airport proposed by the United States. Acting Foreign Minister (Paulo de Tarso) calmed the Arabs by telling them that on 10 July, Brazil told the U.S. Government that it would not participate in the boycott of the airport. [Text] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 15 Jul 85 PY]

GUIMARAES TO GARCIA INAUGURATION--Brasilia, 5 Jul (EFE) Elysses Guimaraes, Chamber of Deputies President, will represent Brazilian President Jose Sarney at the inauguration of Peruvian President-elect Alan Garcia. According to the magazine VEJA, Sarney decided not to make the trip when he saw that the Brazilian Senate, in a threatening expression of ill will, approved his request to go to Uruguay in August by only one vote. President Sarney had planned to travel to Lima on 28 July to attend Garcia's inauguration along with other Latin American presidents. Guimaraes will travel to Lima with Deputy Pimenta da Veiga, leader of the officialist Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party in the Chamber of Deputies, and with Senator Jutahy Magalhaes, deputy leader of the opposition Social Democratic Party. [Text] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1404 GMT 5 Jul 85 PY]

MISSILE PERSONNEL TRAINED--Lynx attack helicopter crewmen in the Brazilian Navy are being trained to fire the Sea Skua, a new, light, antiship missile. Each missile cost \$450,000, and Brazil is buying 10 to 15 units under a contract with British Aerospace Dynamic. The purchase was financed with a \$14.5 million credit from Lloyd's Bank International toward the end of the Figueiredo administration. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 30 Jun 85 p 8]

NEW IMBEL PRESIDENT--Jose (Zelacio) Rosa has taken over the presidency of IMBEL [Brazilian War Materiel Industry]. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 10 Jul 85]

TRUCKS TO PRC--The first shipment of 400 Volkswagen trucks which should number 1,000 eventually, has been loaded in the port of Santos, consigned for the Sinochart, a Chinese state enterprise. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 18 Jun 85 p 33]

ANGOLA BUYS TRUCKS--On 25 June Volvo of Brazil shipped 140 trucks, which have been purchased by Abamat, Angola's State Supplies and Materials Enterprises. This shipment is part of a \$27-million order for 594 trucks to be delivered over a 3-year period. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Jun 85 p 29]

JAPANESE-BRAZILIAN AGREEMENT--A scientific and technological cooperation agreement was ratified on 21 June between Brazil and Japan. The agreement entails training in the fields of computer science, micro-electronics, nuclear energy, biotechnology in food processing area, health, energy, and technology. [Summary] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Jun 85 p 13]

CSO: 3342/225

CHILE

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, COMMUNISTS SEEN AS DOMINANT ALTERNATIVES

Santiago MENSAJE in Spanish Jul 85 pp 231-233

[Commentary by Manuel Antonio Garreton M.]

[Text] One of the traits of military or authoritarian regimes is their attempt to abolish politics in society. The paradox is that once politics has been eradicated from its preferred sphere of action (the government or a system of representation), it tends to resurface, within society itself, in the so-called "intermediate bodies," in social movements, in the civilian society's organizations. And it tends to reappear with ideas that run directly counter to the regime's, representing large opposition groups and attempting to revive politics throughout society. In other words, society is simultaneously politicized and democratized in response to the government's efforts to do away with politics or, what amounts to the same thing, to impose a single type of politics.

One of the most important expressions of this phenomenon has been the elections in various social organizations. As the experiences under other dictatorships show, this is not an exclusively Chilean phenomenon. What is noteworthy about Chile is that these elections, which are clearly exercises in partisan politics in which the opposition is victorious, have often been held no less than under martial law, which was recently lifted. This would seem to indicate that the regime is unable to impose its legitimacy in the various areas of national life and that its political opponents are determined to challenge its legitimacy and have strong support in society.

The Case of the FEUC [Federation of Catholic University Students]

Perhaps the most conspicuous example in recent months has been the election of leaders in the FEUC. There are several reasons. We should recall that for years this university was a symbol of the country's conservative segments and that when in 1967 the Federation of Students "took over" the university and precipitated what was known as University Reform, these segments reacted much as they did to land reform: one of their bastions was being wrested from them, in the most important cultural sphere. Later on, when the reformist student movement split, the Federation of Students was taken over by the Union Movement, a rightwing group that proclaimed its independence of partisan politics; the federation thus became a symbol not only of opposition to the University

Reform but also of radical opposition to the Allende administration. In fact, after September 1973 the military government allowed the FEUC, which was an unqualified supporter, to continue operating, and from it came many young government officials. We should recall that "unionism" as a rightwing political movement was born and grew in the Catholic University, that is remained in the FEUC without democratic elections until 1985 and that its adult leaders established the Independent Democratic Union (UDI) as a pro-regime political party. To all of the above we should add the sociocultural makeup of the Catholic University's student body, "unionism's" ties with the administration posts at the university and the fact that the complex negotiations between the government and the Catholic Church culminated with the appointment of a rector amenable to that ideology, which would seem to confirm the intervention method of rectors-delegates, but this time with the "legitimacy" accorded by a "civilian" rector.

Thus, the first democratic elections in the FEUC were an ideal battleground for the groups that supported the regime, since the opposition had to accept all of the conditions imposed on it. Nevertheless, the groups opposing the military regime got 57 percent of the votes, to 39 percent for its supporters. Their electoral victory came after the democratic groups had won the overwhelming majority of the student centers, had determined through an original procedure of "primary elections" the spots that the various groups would occupy on the unified list and had promoted a platform that successfully combined the most urgent student or university concerns with a call for national democracy, using language that all students could understand.

Other Elections

The FEUC election was not an isolated case, however. The opposition has won in 22 of the 24 student federations that have held direct elections; almost all of the professional associations affiliated with the Federation of Professional Associations, whose elections have clear partisan political overtones, have boards of directors that oppose the regime, and the same tendency can be seen in union balloting. Two facts, then, would seem to be indisputable. First, that the elections in civilian society are predominantly political, and what is more, being contested by the same parties or groups that are active in national politics; and second, the opposition is winning most of the elections over the military regime.

It would be a mistake, however, to assume that the trend towards partisan politicization is uniform in degree and quality in all of the spheres in which association elections are being held or that the elections mean just one thing. The strength of the association itself tends to be a major factor in some elections, and the involvement of parties obscures the degree of autonomy that these organizations enjoy. Thus, if we look at unions, their grievances and the organizational aspect tend to predominate in the large state-run enterprises, in which bargaining power vis-a-vis management is a very important factor in the election of union officials.

Guillermo Medina's influence in the copper industry, for example, is far from commensurate with his political standing and has much more to do with his ability to represent and negotiate. The defeat of the opposition in the union elections at the State Bank is another example of how a questionable handling of organizational matters can influence voting. In contrast, in the small and medium-size enterprises, in which according to the experts the leeway for bargaining is much narrower, the trend is towards greater polarization and radicalization. If we look at the situation in the professional associations, the elections there have had undeniable partisan political overtones recently. They represent a scaled-down version of the same conflicts and rifts as on the national political scene; in the bar association elections, for example, the opposition was unable to submit a unified list. The presence of political forces is strongest in the student movement. Nevertheless, it is also here that, with some exceptions (the Law Department at the University of Chile, for example), there seems to be greater independence from the national party boards, on the one hand, and greater flexibility in submitting unified opposition lists, on the other. The opposition, which has found election unity elusive in other spheres, has achieved it here thanks to accords that democratically allow its voters to decide on their choices for spots on the list. As can be seen from the generally low voter abstention, the politicization of these elections strengthens and redefines, rather than weakens, the grievances and interests of sectors and associations.

Combining Politics With Association Interests

From the standpoint of the competing forces, the elections in these social organizations seem to confirm the current pattern of political party strength, in that the two best organized parties, the Christian Democratic Party and the Communist Party, are the dominant forces. This has at least two implications. On the one hand, it shows how unrealistic it is to try and build a political system that excludes a major social sector such as the Communist Party. On the other, it makes it harder for the opposition to unite against the regime, in the sense that the Christian Democrats are reluctant to reach accords with the Communists while the Communist Party tends to emphasize an agitative line that "overpoliticizes" the organizational aspects and frightens away more moderate segments of society. In addition to these two groups, another leftist line has rapidly been gaining strength of late, mainly among students. It consists of large sectors of independents and party factions connected with the Socialist Bloc. In addition to pushing leftwing issues, they are calling for a handling of political and organizational matters that better reflects the real concerns of the social base and for a type of mobilization that involves the creation of autonomous, representative organizations rather than pure agitation.

Moving Forward

As we look at all these elections in our most important social organizations from the perspective of a political transition and a return to democracy, we can draw at least three conclusions.

First, vehicles other than political parties for representing and running the various spheres of society have not been created, and the party spectrum that existed up to 1973 still applies, with some changes among rightist factions and in the socialist camp. What this means is that candidates and officials in these organizations are both union representatives and party representatives but are obliged to respect the logic and heed the demands of their organizations and to identify with them if they do not wish to risk their positions. Thus, political parties are not imposing on the union organizations from the outside; instead, their relationship is one of tense autonomy. From the standpoint of change and transition, the advantage here is the high degree of accommodation that such a structure allows. In contrast to atomized or "unrepresentable" masses, the union associations can combine political and social issues and represent and mobilize their social constituencies. A trend towards radical anti-authoritarianism in the political arena could imaginably have the backing of these segments of society.

Secondly, the politico-union elections or the democratic plebiscites as part of them are a much sounder form of mobilization than the sheer agitative rallies that characterized the opposition during the period of liberalization, though the significance of the latter cannot be denied either. Although it is true that only agitative mobilization seems possible in some segments of society, among unions, students and professionals this other type of electoral mobilization creates an awareness, provides channels for participation and offers specific vehicles for unity and accommodation. It paves the way for new forms of responsible, involved mobilization.

Thirdly, we are again being shown that political action is what wears down and weakens such regimes. Where there has been political competition between the regime and the opposition in institutionally regulated public spaces, the opposition and the demand for democracy always tend to win out. This once again puts before the opposition its major national challenge under its current encumbered conditions, that is to say, the struggle for political space in which to resolve the crisis of legitimacy that Chilean society is currently undergoing and in which the social majorities that want an end to the military regime can express themselves. It is around this struggle that the various forms of social expression and mobilization should be organized.

8743

CSO: 3348/802

CHILE

STUDENT LEADER'S GOAL: 'UNGOVERNABLE' UNIVERSITY

Santiago HOY in Spanish 8 Jul 85 p 9

[Interview with Yerko Ljubetic Godoy, head of the Student Federation of Chile (FECH); date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] What does "ungovernability" mean? What is the strategy of the FECH in this regard?

[Answer] We are carrying forward a process that will eventually socialize all of the federation's demands on the rectorship and that will gradually channel the reactions of the student movement. It all stems from the idea of student body disobedience, which will, if necessary, make the University of Chile ungovernable. To give you an example, we have to lay the groundwork for a prolonged strike in the university, which will be part of a mounting mobilization.

Moreover, we must make the authorities change their attitude in practice. It is important to push for at least one professorship that can be an alternative to the official chairs within each department, to show the authorities that they cannot continue as they have and that a different sort of university is possible. An alternative school was set up in the Social Sciences Department with the cooperation of the respective professional associations, and after official hours professors, most of whom had been dismissed, give classes there.

Initiatives are also under way to prevent what the authorities regard as normal operations in the intervened university. When an attempt was made to make attendance obligatory in the Law Department, in several classes no one responded when roll was called.

[Question] And what about the Physical and Mathematical Sciences Department and Dean Juan Antonio Poblete?

[Answer] This is one of the clearest applications of our idea. And the best part is that the faculty not just the students, were involved. Specifically, Mr Poblete has been unable to appoint directors, because all of the faculty members have refused to accept them. This will unquestionably lead to Mr Poblete's departure.

[Question] What do you think of Gen Augusto Pinochet's statement that Marxist professors have to be spoken out against?

[Answer] The statement does not exactly come as a surprise to anyone who is familiar with what is going on in the university. The current intervention is based on a system of informants that insures the regime that the professors serve the purposes of the system. What is particularly serious is that he has publicly voiced his support or encouragement of this situation. An accused professor is left completely defenseless. There is thus reason to fear that conditions in our university will worsen through such support for informants and stool pigeons.

[Question] With regard to regaining lost ground, does the FECH have any ambitions in connection with the former structure of the University of Chile?

[Answer] This is an ongoing task; it is even set forth in our bylaws' statement of principles. We must win back the University of Chile as a national university, which implies winning back our provincial branches. There are de facto situations that are very hard to undo, but in general it can and should be done. Our university allowed the government to truly discharge its function as the guarantor of the right to education.

Furthermore, we want the University of Chile to reincorporate what is now called the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, as well as other departments that are now part of the Professional Institute of Santiago.

[Question] It was often said that the University of Chile used to be dominated by union men or nationalists. Who dominates now?

[Answer] The predominance of a single group is less clear in this university than in any other. The unions are extremely weak among students, faculty and administration. But some union men are entrenched in relatively important positions. There is a presence, but not a predominance. The same goes for the Masons and the nationalists. Our conclusion is that only the die-hard supporters of the regime are politically predominant here today.

[Question] Do you feel that the departure of the military rector is a solution?

[Answer] In the text of the referendum that we drafted we were especially careful to speak of "government," not "military" intervention. The answer to the university problem is not to replace a general with an admiral or a retired officer or a hard-core backer of the regime who does not wear a uniform. As far as we are concerned, it is a problem of structure, of putting an end to the regime's meddling in the university and of giving it back full autonomy.

[Question] Are the procedures that the Catholic University of Chile and Valparaiso University followed in naming civilian rectors sufficient?

[Answer] No, not the method they used, because there was government intervention. Much more subtle and indirect ways were used than appointing a rector through a military assignment, in which some go to the Pudeto Regiment, others to Buin and others to the University of Chile regiment. Government intervention is preventing the universities from running themselves. This is particularly important today, when it is being said that the change at the University of Chile could be the appointment of a civilian who enjoys the complete confidence of the regime. That would not satisfy us at all.

8743

CSO: 3348/802

CHILE

THREE PEOPLE SENTENCED FOR INSULTING PRESIDENT

PY192059 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Jul 85

[Text] The Supreme Court has sentenced Punta Arenas labor leader Jose Luis Di Giorgio to 541 days imprisonment. He has been found guilty of insulting the president of the Republic. The court has handed down the same sentence to (Carlos Rodriguez Ladmich) and Susana Guerrero Toledo on the same grounds.

The trial began when the Interior Ministry on 24 February 1984 submitted a request following serious incidents at the Punta Arenas parade ground, where police arrested Di Giorgio, (Rodriguez), and Guerrero. They were found guilty of violating Paragraph B of the Internal Security Law.

The three detainees had appealed a decision by the Punta Arenas Appellate Court, but the Supreme Court has rejected their appeal.

CSO: 3348/850

CHILE

BRIEFS

COUNTERFEIT DOLLARS--Police have reported that almost \$500,000 in counterfeit bills was discovered in Santiago. The counterfeit dollars were produced through an offset printing system and distributed in Santiago since January by a gang of five persons, who were arrested. The authorities reported that this is the largest counterfeit operation ever detected in Chile. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1218 GMT 7 Jul 85 PY]

MEMBERSHIP IN HAGUE CONFERENCE--President Augusto Pinochet has signed the message attached to a draft bill allowing Chile to join the Hague Conference on Private International Law. The bill also approves the conference's bylaws, which took effect on 15 July 1955. The bill should now be reviewed by the legislative branch. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 July 85 PY]

NEW STATE COUNCIL MEMBER--Justice Minister Hugo Rosende reported yesterday that Eugenio Heiremans, chairman of the Chilean Security Association, has been appointed representative of the business sector to the State Council. He replaces Pedro Ibanez. [Summary] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 27 Jun 85 p C3 PY]

AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS--The Honduran Government has agreed to the designation of Carabineros General Osman Perez Sepulveda, retired, as the new Chilean ambassador to Tegucigalpa. [Summary] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jul 85 PY]

CSO: 3348/850

COLOMBIA

COMMENTARY ON NATIONAL DIALOGUE COMMITTEES

Bogota CROMOS in Spanish 11 Jun 85 pp 20-25

[Article by Fernando Cortes: "National Lady Dialogue"]

[Text] What has been considered the "final kick" missing in the national dialogue did not take long in coming: 26 members of the dialogue subcommissions (including sworn advocates of peace and figures of the stature of retired Gen Jose Joaquín Matallana) signed a document last week with apocalyptic views on the inoperativeness that has been assumed by the talks, described by one senator as "mere flutterings of a blind hen." As might have been expected, the document caused a stir. It was claimed, among other things, that the dialogue was in danger of death, owing to the "glaring absence of representatives from the traditional political parties and economic associations" among the members of the subcommissions themselves.

The Fever Rose

After a little less than 72 hours of waiting for the chairmen of the 10 sub-commissions to give an accounting to the head of the Peace Commission, John Agudelo, the discordant voices have become increasingly loud. During the past month (for example), the dialogue has had to withstand more than one diatribe. Former President Lopez Michelsen recently attacked the "commissionitis" which, in his opinion, has taken control of the peace process, and which has caused the government, in the view of President Betancur, to evade a direct ("more effective") understanding with the guerrillas. At almost the same time, Msgr Dario Castrillon, bishop of Pereira and ardent follower of the peace and negotiation process, declared himself to be "disappointed" upon observing the lack of commitment on the part of the Congress and the government in the area of "social change for the poor people." The voice of former President Lleras Restrepo was also heard. In his opinion column in NUEVA FRONTERA, he said that, although the dialogue was having political results and was important because of the mere fact of having been agreed upon, it was also true that "it is not leading anywhere." He didn't even hesitate to describe it as an "absurd method." Added to all this were the repeated complaints from the left and the guerrillas, whose initial proposal for dialogue had a certain quality of "open town hall meeting" or public debate, with the news media present.

In the opinion of the M-19 observers, the withdrawal of some of the subcommissions after the attack upon Navarro Wolf just raised the fever of the patient.

The Little Funeral

When the situation is viewed from the standpoint of this widespread skepticism, the reportorial treatment that was given to the matter at the time by the capital press (EL TIEMPO used a headline stating flatly "the national dialogue is at death's door") is warranted. What many others (including the chairmen and 90 percent of the members of the subcommissions interviewed by CROMOS) have said is that the patient's relapse is not so alarming as to give the impression that "it already has one foot in the grave." And if it does (they warned), everything will be ruined, including the peace process itself. This has prompted the staff of the subcommissions, despite the obstacles, to reiterate the need for "an urgent revitalization of the dialogue" and a summons for their proposals (which will be submitted to the chief executive before 20 July) to be considered. At the meeting to be held this Thursday by John Agudelo and the board members of the subcommissions, a final evaluation will be made and it will be explained, for once and for all, whether this phase of talks should continue or if, on the contrary, it deserves a funeral.

The experts think that, although the assessment of the subcommissions' work does not meet the original expectations, it has at least been satisfactory. Representing the subcommission on agrarian reform, its chairman, Guillermo Alberto Gonzalez, explained that "there is no complaint" about the participation of the two traditional parties in the deliberations. He did express surprise over the fact that "those who signed the protest document were individuals who attended, at the most, two discussions and then disappeared." Gonzalez thinks that the dialogue has met its goal: "We shall submit the proposals that have been studied and our responsibility extends to that point. It is the government and the congressmen who have had the floor up until now. What I am fully convinced of is that it makes no sense to continue with closed meetings: I am a confirmed enemy of commissionitis."

Let the Political Device Be Retained

Every member has his own opinion on the subject (it was for a reason that a CONSIGNA columnist gave the national dialogue the description of a "tower of Babel"). Councilwoman Clara Lopez, chair of the urban development commission, thinks that the political groups have given the support that was expected. She comments: "So I cannot understand why there is such a negative atmosphere surrounding the dialogue. It is a kind of reluctance that is coming not only from the lurking enemies of peace, as Otto Morales has said, but from its sympathizers as well. True, we are not geniuses; but it is also a fact that the mistakes made at some particular time cannot destroy something that has caused so much sacrifice: the peace process."

Something different has occurred with the university subcommission, on the other hand. Prof Guillermo Hoyos, its chairman, has expressed regret at the slight

amount of commitment from the two parties. Hoyos is of the opinion that the government has considered only one of the two sides of the dialogue. He claims that the side of the public debate on the community level has been neglected. "I hope that, in any event, the deadline of 20 July won't mark the end of the dialogue. This is a political device that should be retained steadfastly. Peace is not a miracle falling from heaven. The negotiations must continue."

Ariel Armel, chairman of the subcommission on economic development, for his part, has commented: "The fact that the dialogue has not produced spectacular news doesn't mean that it is on the brink of failure. On the contrary, the mere fact that guerrillas and economic associations are sitting down at the same table to talk about their common problems, of itself, already means that our political customs are becoming civilized." Rubiel Valencia Cossio, head of the public services commission, for his part, leaves the matter in the hands of the plenary meeting of subcommissions which will convene this Thursday: "Then it will be learned whether it is worthwhile continuing, despite the fact that groups such as M-19 (interested in the dialogue) have withdrawn from the deliberations."

The Dialogue: $1 + 1 = 9$

CROMOS' poll was also taken among the "ordinary workers" on each subcommission. When asked "How do you view the dialogue from inside?" they gave answers ranging from one end to the other. There were some comments such as the following:

"The dialogue is hanging by a thread."

"It is a tower of Babel, whose formula for understanding is $1 + 1 = 9$."

"It is neither much of a dialogue nor very national."

"A little push and...either it revives or it goes into the wastebasket (but now that is what is important: the little push)."

"It has become refined. It became 'Lady Dialogue.'" (Such a brilliant touch)

"It met its obligation. Now the government has the floor."

"At half-speed; but it is going ahead."

Commission on Agrarian Reform

Participants:

Conservative and Liberal Parties, M-19, Communist Party, National Federation of Cattlemen, Farmers Association of Colombia, ICA [Colombian Agricultural-Livestock Institute], INDERENA [Institute for Development of Renewable Natural Resources], INCORA [Colombian Institute of Agrarian Reform], DRI [Integrated

Rural Development Program[, CEGA [expansion unknown], Agustin Codazzi, Ministry of Agriculture, peasant and Indian associations and ANUC [National Association of Rural Land Users].

Assessment:

A document was submitted to the national dialogue coordinating agency containing: a statement of principles on the type of agrarian reform that the country needs, short term plans for the "red zone" of peace and changes that should be made in the government's bill to be studied in the regular sessions of Congress.

Commission on Urban Development

Participants:

Liberal and Conservative Parties (but not permanently), Colombian Association of Architects, Colombian Association of Engineers, National Forum for Colombia Foundation, M-19, EPL [Popular Liberation Army], Central Mortgage Bank, INSCREDIAL [Territorial Credit Institute], Popular Civic Movement, National and District Planning, the adviser to the presidency on housing, CAMACOL [Colombian Chamber of Construction], Valle Popular Housing Chamber, tenants' associations and PROVIVIENDA [Housing Promotion Fund].

Assessment:

On 19 June a document will be submitted with 18 reports on the following topics: housing, land, public space and community participation in independent construction plans. Visits were made to troubled zones in Cali, Tolima and Palmira and to six neighborhoods in the capital.

Commission on Economic Development

Participants:

Liberal and Conservative Parties (with absence of some members who live outside Bogota and others who expressed an interest in participating), Communist Party, M-19, EPL, economic associations and PROEXPO [Export Promotion Fund].

Assessment:

An emergency document was submitted on the demands of the International Monetary Fund. The subcommission opposed, among other things, a process of accelerated devaluation, the elimination of subsidies for Colombian exports; the decontrol of imports and the closing of factories which will have a very intensive effect and the elimination of mixed types of cooperative and social economy. Another final document is being prepared.

Commission on Public Services

Participants:

Liberal and Conservative Parties, EPL, ADO [Workers Self-Defense], and M-19 (this latter group withdrew after the attack on Navarro Wolf), National Planning, Ministry of Housing, ISA [expansion unknown], INTRA [National Transportation Institute], CORELCA [Electric Corporation of the Atlantic Coast], CVC [Regional Autonomous Corporation of the Cauca Valley], INSFOPAL [Municipal Development Institute] and public service companies.

Assessment:

Conclusions will be submitted to the government in three areas: power, water works and public transportation rates. Reports were made, including that of the Institute of Liberal Studies. The present programs of the water works, power and transportation companies were analyzed. National Planning and the Ministry of Finance explained the "effect of the foreign debt on the cost of services to the user."

Commission on Universities

Participants:

The Liberal and Conservative Parties have not participated. M-19 and ADO have been refraining from attending. Participating actively are rectors and former rectors, ICEFS [Colombian Institute for Promotion of Higher Education], ICETEX [Colombian Institute for Educational Credits and Overseas Technical Studies], COLCIENCIAS [Colombian Institute of Sciences], National Planning and the National University.

Assessment:

The document on conclusions will contain: a proposal to expand the satellite universities, reinforcement of the public universities, Gerardo Molina's plan on the mechanism for electing rectors and a plan to create a state agency to autonomously run the university welfare service (as exists in Germany and France).

Commission on Labor

Participants:

The Liberal and Conservative political parties have no authorized spokesmen. On a personal basis, an expert from the Institute of Liberal Studies is participating. Members of M-19 and EPL have occasionally shown up. There is almost no presence of the labor confederations. Jorge Tadeo Lozano, the former chairman, resigned for this reason. He is being replaced by Marco Tulio Rodriguez.

Assessment:

The collective and individual part of the Labor Code, procedural law and social security were debated, and methods were sought for reforming the Ministry of Labor (too much bureaucracy). A proposal on cooperativism was approved for submission to the dialogue plenary session.

Other Commissions

Justice:

The former chairman, Jose Maria Velasco, resigned. He has been replaced by Hugo Escobar Sierra. There is little participation by the Liberal and Conservative Parties, the guerrillas and the judicial groups.

Education:

The Liberal and Conservative Parties, the leftist groups and the teachers' organizations are participating. Some topics: payment of salaries and educational reform (a bill to be submitted to Congress). The Ministry of Education has asserted its propositions. There is little talk about the Instructors Statute.

Health:

Present are the Liberal and Conservative Parties, spokesmen from hospital establishments and the Ministry of Health. Some topics: the hospital crisis and social security. Solely a government sector.

Constitution:

Although the chairman of this commission, Roberto Gerlein, is a leading member of the Conservative Party, the members complain about meager traditional political participation.

2909

CSO: 8148/1693

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS--Today the Honduran and Thai ambassadors to Colombia, Jorge Elias Flefil Larach and Pranom Kongsamut respectively, presented their credentials to President Belisario Betancur. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0032 GMT 24 Jul 85 PA]

CSO: 3348/830

DOMINICA

BRIEFS

ISRAELI ENVOY--Roseau, July 22--The new Israeli non-resident Ambassador to Dominica, Yehoshua Hakohen, is due here Saturday to present his credentials to President Clarence Seignoret, the Foreign Affairs Department announced today. It said that the diplomat, based in Jamaica, will meet with Seignoret next Monday as well as pay courtesy calls on Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and members of her cabinet. Dominica established diplomatic relations with Israel in 1979. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1615 GMT 22 Jul 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/918

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

EXPORTS REPORTEDLY DECLINE FIRST 5 MONTHS

FL232147 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 22 Jul 85 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] A report on the behavior of exports for January-May 1985 shows a 14.2 [percent] decline when compared with the same period in 1984, as the total value declined from \$419.9 million to \$360.2 million. According to the report, released by the Dominican Center for Export Development (CEDOPEX), in absolute terms, the decline reported totals \$59.7 million.

From January to May, traditional exports--sugar, coffee, tobacco and cacao--totaled \$214.6 million, or 23 percent less than the \$279.5 million exported during the same period in 1984. According to [CEDOPEX executive director Dr Eduardo] Tejera, this year, for a variety of internal and external reasons, such as the reduction of international prices, changes in shipment programs, and the retention of shipments due to exchange surcharges, [recargo cambiario], traditional exports have diminished and are affecting the country's total exports. The official explained that each sector has specific problems dealing with prices, sales, or other aspects and that the decrease reported these first 5 months cannot be attributed to a single cause.

Dr Tejera indicated that the exports of sugar and its byproducts totaled \$132 million for January-May 1985, as compared to \$180 million exported during the same period in 1984. This represents a 26.6 percent decline. He explained that the main problem with sugar is its laughable price in the international markets, which at present is approximately \$0.025 to \$0.03 per pound. Another aspect of the problem is the reduction of the U.S. quota by over 130,000 tons.

As for crude sugar, the major sugar product, a total \$93.6 million were exported between January-May 1985, a 40 percent decrease if compared with the \$156.3 million exported during January-May 1984.

As regards green coffee, the CEDOPEX executive director indicated that during January-May 1985, \$40.8 million worth of it were exported, as compared with \$42.6 million exported during the same period last year. This represents a slight 4.2 percent decrease.

Dr Tejera also reported that exports of tobacco leaves for January-May 1985 totaled \$8.9 million, a 29.2 percent decrease if compared with the \$12.6 million exported during the same period in 1984.

Finally, the figures for crude cacao exports totaled \$32.8 million for January-May 1985, as compared to \$44.2 million for the same period during 1984, or a 25.6 percent reduction. As regards cacao, the volumes exported also decreased.

Dr Tejera explained that in general terms, although the decline in the prices of traditional exports is causing serious foreign exchange problems, some improvement was noted during April and May and it is expected that this situation will continue during the next few months.

The CEDOPEX official also reported on nontraditional exports like minerals and agricultural, livestock and industrial products. For the January-May 1985 period, these exports totaled \$144.7 million, or a 3.2 percent increase as compared to the \$140.2 million exported during the same period in 1984.

Among nontraditional exports, minerals totaled \$95.7 million for the January-May 1985 period, which compare favorably with the \$89.3 million exported during January-May 1984. This represents a 7.2 percent increase.

Later the CEDOPEX official said that nontraditional agricultural and livestock exports totaled \$15.3 million for January-May 1985, an 11.3 percent increase if compared with \$13.7 million during the same period the previous year. According to Dr Tejera, in the case of agricultural and livestock products, the value of these exports could have been greater, had it not been for a decline in prices. The volume exported during January-May 1985 totaled 58,938,618 kg as compared with 53,661,802 kg exported during January-May 1984. This means that either the prices of our agricultural products have declined in the international market, they are being underpriced, or exporters are not turning in the total foreign exchange sums. However, Dr Tejera said that in his opinion nontraditional agricultural and livestock exports are doing well and there is a notable increase in both the number of export products and total exported values. However, he explained that larger investments and more agricultural and livestock export plans are required to further increase production and exports.

Finally, with regard to nontraditional industrial exports, it has been learned that they totaled \$35.5 million for January-May 1985, as compared to \$37 million during the same period in 1984. This represents a 9.4 percent decline. Dr Tejera reported that in the case of nontraditional industrial exports, price and revenue problems are again observable as the volume exported for January-May 1985 was larger than that for the same period the previous year. Until May 1985, 106,805,777 kg of nontraditional industrial products were exported, as compared with 84,908,327 kg exported during the same period in 1984. This represents an effort and a very positive success from the industrial sector to redirect their production towards the international markets.

CSO: 3248/460

23 August 1985

GRENADA

NEW NATIONAL PARTY BICKERING AS CONVENTION DRAWS NEAR

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 24 Jul 85 p 19

[Text]

ST. GEORGE'S, Tues., (Cana): — GRENADA'S ruling New National Party (NNP), a coalition of three centrist parties hastily put together last August to stave off electoral challenges by the extreme left and right, is preparing for its first convention amidst a background of inter-party bickering.

The formation of the NNP on the Grenadine island of Union, was promoted by the United States and its Caribbean allies who were fearful that a split centre vote may have favoured either Sir Eric Gairy's United Labour Party or the leftist Maurice Bishop Patriotic Front, in general elections last December to restore constitutional Government.

The NNP is made up of the Grenada National Party (GNP) of Herbert Blaize; the National Democratic Party (NDP) of George Brizan, and the Grenada Democratic Movement (GDM) of Dr. Francis Alexis.

Junior Minister in the Grenada Ministry of Information, Mr. Bennet Andrews, has been elected as the chief organising secretary of a committee mandated by the NNP to pave the way for the convention, for which no date has been set, informed sources said.

The election to the post took place Saturday during the first official get-together of all elected parliamentarians, campaign managers, coordinators and top party officials since the NNP's landslide victory in the December poll.

A party paper shown to Cana indicated that the date for the national convention would be determined by a special meeting to be called for that purpose at a time when Mr. Andrews and his committee are in a position to say the country is ready for such a convention.

SEVERE CRITICISM

Informed sources said that during the four-hour party caucus the manner in which Mr. Blaize was running the country as Prime Minister came in for severe criticism by a number of speakers such as Mr. Brizan and Junior Minister for Legal and External Affairs Tillman Thomas.

Mr. Blaize was criticised in particular for not convening regular sittings of Parliament.

This followed the accusations made two weeks ago by the Grenadian "Voice" newspaper that Mr. Blaize was showing contempt for the Press, as well as promoting Government by Cabinet and not Parliament.

The rules governing Parliament make provisions for parliamentary sittings on a monthly basis. Since the elections there have been only four sittings of Parliament.

The sources quoted Mr. Blaize as saying in response that the parliamentary rules are not mandatory and that he believed in Government run by the Cabinet with the Parliament next in line.

CSO: 3298/919

GRENADA

BRIEFS

GULP MEMBERSHIP DRIVE--St George's, Grenada, Monday (CANA)--Seven months after its severe thrashing in general elections here, the opposition Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) of ex-Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy has launched a membership drive. The Grenada Guardian, the GULP's weekly newspaper, this weekend carried an appeal to supporters to come forward and collect their membership cards. "Gulpites, your membership card awaits you. Please see your field agent now," the appeal went. The paper published a sample of the membership card which carries a passport size photo of Sir Eric surrounded by seven stars, symbol of the party. "I shall defend our leader and officers at all times. I will abide by my party's motto, and will pray always for our leader and other officers," read one section of the card. [Excerpt] [Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 23 Jul 85 p 43]

CSO: 3298/910

GUYANA

JAGAN RECOUNTS OBJECTIONS TO NEW SECURITY LAW

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 21 Jul 85 p 8

[Article by Cheddi Jagan]

[Text] "An eminently reasonable, precautionary measure" was the way Guyana Minister of Home Affairs described the National Security Act when he recommended its passage by the National Assembly.

Vice-President and Minister of Justice Shahabuddeen said that when "liberty is challenged by whomsoever, it is necessary to stand to its defence."

You are both sophists, I declared, when I began my speech in Parliament. I told the National Assembly that when they had spoken, I couldn't help seeing visions of Adolf Hitler, Senator Eugene McCarthy, P.W. Botha and General Pinochet. They too had talked about freedom and liberty, and invoked/invoke the security of the state.

The National Security Act, first promulgated in 1966-67, was more draconian than the Smith Act of 1947 and the Internal Security Act of 1950, known as the McCarran Act, which spawned McCarthyism in the USA.

Under Senator Eugene McCarthy and his Un-American Activities Committee, thousands of famous Americans were witch-hunted and persecuted. The renowned singer and actor Paul Robeson and the eminent black scholar Dr W.E.B. Dubois had been hounded and their passport seized.

In Latin American countries, even those run by fascists dictators like Pinochet, a state of siege has to be declared before constitutional guarantees are suspended. And under British colonialism, also, there was the practice of declarations from time to time of a state of emergency.

Regime

Not so in Guyana under the People's National Congress (PNC) regime. The state of emergency was ostensibly brought to an end in January 1967. But, in fact, it was re-incarnated in the National Security Act, which provided for detention and other violations of the rule of law. And it became a permanent feature simply by periodic extensions in Parliament.

Part II of the Act is obnoxious. It violates all the norms of civilised jurisprudence. The general rule is that the accused is presumed to be innocent until he is proven guilty. Under the Act, the accused is presumed to be guilty until or unless he can prove himself innocent.

And the penalties provided are particularly harsh. This is what section 22 (1) says: "Subject to the provisions of section 30, any person who, without lawful authority, the burden of proof of which shall lie upon him, purchases, acquires or has in his possession any firearm, ammunition or explosive shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars or to imprisonment and, on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for life."

The act also includes the odious provision of guilt by association. If one is found in the company of another who is alleged to have had "ammunition" in his possession or on anything which he controls, then one is presumed to be likewise guilty.

The Minister of Justice, in his defence of the Act, tried to score a debating point. He read a news item from the Opposition weekly, the "Mirror." The story referred to a group calling itself the Conservative Party of Canada, picketing before the United Nations in New York and calling for the Reagan administration to overthrow the Guyana Government. Some of its members had been incited and sentenced for being in possession of arms.

I pointed out that the lunatic activities of a small fringe political group in the USA should not be the excuse for assuming emergency powers in Guyana. Both the United States and Canada had used their normal security apparatus and the judicial process to deal with the law-breakers.

The Minister of Justice tried to justify detention without trial on the ground that it would be subject to review by a tribunal, linked to an "independent" judiciary. He reminded Parliament of the position of his predecessor, the then Attorney General S.S. Ramphal (now Commonwealth Secretary General) who had put the original National Security Act on our statute book in 1967.

Mr Ramphal also had justified it on the basis of an independent judiciary and right of appeal to the British Privy Council. If the latter were to be disbanded later, he had assured Guyanese, then it would have been replaced either by a Commonwealth or Caribbean Court of Appeal.

The PNC regime abolished the Privy Council as an appellate court. But it has not replaced it by a Caribbean Appeal Court.

The much-flaunted independence of the judiciary must be considered in the context of "PNC paramountcy." Under this doctrine, the Government "is merely one of the executive arms of the party." Consequently, the PNC flag fluttered for a time next to the Guyana flag on the Appeal Court building. And it must be noted also that practically all the Supreme Court judges had been appointed since the PNC took power in December 1964.

On the issue of citizens' rights being protected by virtue of the right to appear before a tribunal, Ranji Chandisingh, when in opposition, had stated that that "is a blatant piece of hypocrisy. A close examination reveals that the whole machinery is securely in the hands of the Government." In 1985, however, as general secretary of the ruling (PNC) and a Vice-president and Deputy Prime Minister, he sat meekly and voted for the passage of the Bill.

Vice-President Chandisingh said many other forceful and prophetic things about the National Security Act when in opposition. In Parliament in November 1966, in the debate on the National Security Bill, he said then that vested interests "...are resorting, through this Government, to methods of intimidation, of repression, and most likely in the near future to prepare the way for the rigging of elections...so as to prevent the possibility of a clear majority of the people of this country from exercising a greater degree of democracy and control of their own country. This is the significance that I attach...to the very ominous and, shall I say, unnecessary move on the part of the Government.

That statement was made just before the rigged elections of 1968. Once again, not later than March 31, 1986, elections are to be held.

The obnoxious National Security Act is now a permanent feature of Guyanese life. Even requirement of periodic extensions has been removed. It violates the UN Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, to which Guyana is a signatory.

Under this intimidatory and repressive Act, the abuse of the civil rights of the Guyanese people have become a regular feature of everyday life.

Warrants

Activists of People's Progressive Party (PPP), including two former ministers, "were detained; passports were seized; searches are willy-nilly carried out without warrants; homes are tumbled up and mattresses are gipped up ostensibly in search of arms; papers and documents are seized at the airport; and citizens are dragged to police stations and kept for days under abominable conditions.

In 1979, during a strike, prominent trade unionist Gordon Todd, president of the Clerical and Commercial Workers' Union, was seized by the police. He was taken on the eve of his union's annual conference to an airstrip with the intention of dumping him in the interior of the country. Only the direct intervention by the TUC general secretary with the then Prime Minister saved him.

The Guyanese people need sympathy and support. They need militant solidarity in defence of their civil and political rights.

CSO: 3298/911

GUYANA

BRIEFS

PNC-PPP TALKS--Georgetown, Guyana, Sunday (CANA)--Officials of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) and the Marxist People's Progressive Party (PPP) have had discussions on the procedures and the agenda for high-level cooperation talks between the two parties, according to a statement issued by both sides. "The first round of talks took place on Friday July 19 and was concerned primarily with working out the procedures, the agenda and the general framework in which the two-party talks are to proceed," the statement said. "At its first meeting the committee discussed broadly several questions related to its talks and both sides advanced views on the structure for the talks and offered suggestions for their positive development," the statement explained. The PNC was represented by Elvin McDavid, a central committee member, Vice President and General Secretary Ranji Chandisingh, a former senior official in the PPP and Halim Majeed, a scribe. [Text] [Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 22 Jul 85 p 43]

CSO: 3298/911

HONDURAS

BRIEFS

JAPANESE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE--The Japanese Government has donated 4 million lempiras to the Honduran Social Security Institute to reinforce assistance programs offered at that institution. This donation is part of an agreement to build an obstetric-pediatric hospital costing 10 million lempiras. The Japanese Government will also offer technical assistance to personnel in this hospital complex that will be serving mothers and children of Comayaguela when it opens at year's end. [Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Jun 85 PA]

CSO: 3248/451

JAMAICA

CUBAN RADIO NOTES PNP DEMANDS FOR SEAGA'S RESIGNATION

PA241354 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Jul 85

[Text] Jamaican opposition parties have demanded Prime Minister Edward Seaga's resignation and announced new popular protests against the government's economic policy and the growing militarization of the country. At the People's Forum, a monthly public meeting, spokesmen of the People's National Party, headed by former Prime Minister Michael Manley, said that Seaga must resign for the sake of the nation.

The Worker's Party of Jamaica recently noted that the agreement signed with the IMF will leave 35,000 public employees without jobs, bring about the dismantling of the educational system, and result in massive price hikes. The leftist organization warned about the escalation in the recruitment and training of troops for the Jamaican Defense Force, which is assuming an increasingly repressive role.

The reports added that Prime Minister Edward Seaga is currently in Paris to renegotiate part of Jamaica's commercial and (? contingency) debt. Seaga also visited Japan, where he met with private businessmen and government officials to promote investments in his country.

CSO: 3298/921

JAMAICA

STRIKE, LAYOFFS IN AFTERMATH SPARK FURTHER REACTION

Union Agitation

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

HUNDREDS OF MILITANT union delegates yesterday mandated the six major trade unions to get the Government to immediately reinstate 1,200 firemen and 200 Jamaica Public Service Co. workers suspended last week as a result of their involvement in the eight-day general strike.

"The view was expressed by the delegates that the charges and suspensions were ill-conceived and in some instances could be a direct result of victimisation against these groups by virtue of the various claims they have pursued vigorously and successfully in the past," said Mr. E. Lloyd Taylor, general secretary of JALGO. The other union leaders at the meeting were Mr. Clive Dobson, general secretary of the NWU, Mr. Hopeton Caven, general secretary of the TUC, and Mr. Claude O'Regan, president of JUPOPE.

Mr. Taylor who was speaking at a news conference following a six-hour meeting of the delegates at the Hotel Oceana, King Street, Kingston, said that the delegates in a unanimous resolution, had

called upon the Government to ensure that the entire amount of the Education Tax collected this year be used to pay teachers' salaries and avert the impending closures of certain schools.

In other developments at the meeting, it was reported that angry delegates called on the leadership of the unions, referred to as "Solidarity" to ask why no member of the BITU leadership was represented yesterday.

There were quite a number of BITU delegates as well as junior officers of the BITU at the meeting.

Mr. Taylor said that the BITU knew of the time and venue of the meeting yesterday because they were part of the decision to hold the meeting. However, he said that whether the BITU's leaders were absent or not would not have affected the progress of the meeting because BITU-represented workers were present and were a party to the decisions taken.

23 August 1985

He explained that Mr. Reg Ennis, the general secretary of UTASP, was absent because of illness.

Mr. Caven said the delegates called upon the leadership to widen the base of the movement and of such there was intention to involve organisations such as the Jamaica Civil Service Association, the Junior Doctors' Association, the Nurses Association of Jamaica and others.

"The workers were very strong in the condemnation of the authorities with regard to the victimisation of the 1,200 firemen and the over 200 JPS workers and also what is happening as far as the teachers are concerned. The delegates were in a very fighting mood over those situations," Mr. Dobson said.

The delegates mandated the leadership to pursue the matter with all the vigour at their command and "there was no way are they going to allow those kind of unnecessary and wanton victimisation to take place," Mr. Dobson said.

Mr. Dobson told reporters that indications were that the matters would not be resolved at the meetings set to start today within the normal conciliatory machinery. However, out of respect for the machinery the unions would be pre-

sent at the meetings, he said.

"It's going to be the responsibility of the union leadership after those meetings are held and they obtain the results, to determine where we go from here," Mr. Dobson told reporters, stating that the delegates had spoken in very serious and angry tones about the "wanton victimisation" that was taking place.

No stone would be left unturned in order to ensure that justice for the workers being victimised was achieved for re-instatement and payment for the period of time they were off the job, he said.

"Let it be clearly understood that we are coming and when we come this time we come for good," Mr. Caven, said, with Mr. Dobson adding: "And with force."

The meeting took serious note, Mr. Dobson said, that there was a drift "towards dictatorship" in the country and also that the democratic rights of the people were being eroded.

The delegates are to meet again on Sunday.

Also speaking at the press conference was Mr. O'Regan.

PNP on Education Problems

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

The People's National Party stated yesterday that the closing of educational institutions and the sacking of staff was not the answer to the problems in education.

Instead, the PNP said in a statement, the Government should enter into "consultative sessions" with teachers, board members, parents and students to discuss the problems in education and to seek practical innovative methods of resolving these problems.

The closing of institutions and the sacking of staff should be the last resort and was a major assault on the main sector of development for the country, the PNP said.

In a statement on the plans to close some schools and the laying off of teachers, Mr. Carlyle Dunkley, PNP spokesman on Education, said the Government's latest decision was a further assault on the nation's educational system and described the actions as "callous indifference."

He said that the decisions which were being taken were unplanned because the recently approved Budget gave no indication of a proposed cut affecting teacher-training. Mr. Dunkley noted that in the recurrent estimates there was a slightly increased provision of \$21 million for teacher-training instead of \$20 million as in 1984/85.

The effects of these dislocations, and unplanned action, Mr. Dunkley

said, if not addressed properly, would have irreparable consequences.

"We can only assume therefore, that the Government's actions are as a result of a lack of any coherent plan to deal with this situation. No doubt, we all would agree that a high priority must be placed on a return to stability and sanity in our education sector. The question is, how do we foster this stability?" Mr. Dunkley asked.

He said that the cuts in education would limit and worsen the teacher-pupil ratio, create more unemployment among teachers and reverse the

quality of primary education and demoralise students of secondary and post secondary schools. The recent actions, he said, were probably a deliberate attempt to emasculate tertiary education.

He suggested that the Government meet with the teachers and their organisations to settle the current salary dispute and to enter into consultative session with the main interest groups in an attempt to devise practical ways to resolve the problems in education.

Union Activities

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Jul 85 p 3

Text]

Another abortive meeting was held yesterday at the Ministry of Labour on the dispute involving suspension of some 200 Jamaica Public Service Company workers who did not turn up for work for more than four days, during the recent general strike.

The unions — BITU and NWU — and the management told the Ministry yesterday that there were no developments in their local level talks aimed at resolving the dispute, as there were no meaningful discussions at the local level meeting at the Oceana Hotel, Kingston, last Friday. The meeting ended with the chairman, Mr. Glen Mitchell, Assistant Director of Industrial Relations, agreeing to have consultations with the Minister of Labour, the Hon. J.A.G. Smith, and report back to the parties.

●Yesterday, the NWU held meetings with its bauxite industry delegates as well as JAMINTEL and JTCO delegates at its East Street head office to discuss the matter.

Although the unions have been pressing that the workers cannot allow the suspensions to go unchallenged and have instructed the workers not to attend the enquiries called by the company into the absence from work of the workers, as well as demanding that the company withdraw the suspensions, the enquiries

have been continuing and the company has refused to withdraw the notices. No decision on whether the workers would take industrial action in reaction to the company's actions has been taken, however.

●A meeting which was scheduled for today at the Ministry of Labour to continue conciliatory talks on the claim by junior doctors for improvements in salaries and fringe benefits, has been postponed to next week Tuesday at 10.30 a.m., a Ministry source said yesterday. The reason for the postponement could not be ascertained.

●And, in a letter to the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of the Public Service, dated July 4, the Jamaica Workers Union (JWU) claimed that the redundancies of workers at the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) were being carried out contrary to the understanding between the union and the Ministry.

According to JWU's president, Mr. Clifton Brown, at a meeting on June 28 with the Ministry it was indicated that the workers that would be made redundant would be temporary workers, or at least workers who were employed in excess of the staff cadre.

"It is observed, however, that a number of appointed workers whose services in some instances exceed 11 years are being made redundant along with temporary workers."

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jul 85 p 8

[Article by Carl Stone]

[Text]

Mr. Seaga pulled a very fast one in Barbados last week when he tried to deny the reality of the General Strike which took place in this country in a statement made to the press which was carried live on RJR.

According to Mr. Seaga's account, a small minority of utility workers shut down the essential services. The effect, he contended, was to force other workers to stay home, thereby withdrawal of labour in the economy.

Mr. Seaga was not in the country when the General Strike began. But even if he was thoroughly misled by those who briefed him on his return, he should certainly have taken the trouble to ascertain the facts.

Between Monday and Tuesday of the week of the strike news reports listed several organisations unconnected with the trade union-government dispute or the essential services who went off for varying periods in solidarity with the unions' call to shut down the economy.

Political fiction

The list of enterprises is quite formidable and we do not have enough space in this column to list them all. We will, however, identify some of these enterprises just to remind Mr. Seaga and whoever briefed him that the account he gave of the strike was an exercise in political fiction quite unworthy of a Prime Minister.

Federated Pharmaceuticals, Desnoes & Geddes, the Jamaica Biscuit Company, the Citrus Company of Jamaica, Reginald Aitken Ltd., Jamaica Milk Products, Restwell Ltd., Food Specialities, Jamaica Flour Mills, Seprod, Caribbean Cement Company, Trans Jamaica Ltd., N.C.B., Workers Bank, Bank of Nova Scotia, B.O.J., Jamaica Citizens

Bank, Western Terminals, Serv-Well, Industrial Gases Ltd., W.I. Synthetics, Guinness Jamaica Ltd., J. Wray & Nephew, Daily Gleaner, Broadway, Tropigas, Petrojam, Beale Industries, Metal Box, West Indies Glass, Brandram Henderson, hotel workers, bauxite workers etc., etc.

Clique

Mr. Seaga's further suggestion that the strike was the work of some conspiratorial clique soon to be revealed by him is totally inconsistent with the diverse and broadly based support the strike call received.

There seems to be an incredible effort being made to ignore and escape the fact that the government is extremely unpopular among the country's working class. Indeed, it is precisely that reality which forced the JLP's union-affiliate the BITU to join forces with the strike, thereby, generating severe tensions between the union and the party.

To be sure, any government in power at this time would incur a backlash of working class hostility because of the austerity measures which this column has insisted are unavoidable. However, the government's credibility problem goes much deeper than that.

First P.M. to...

Mr. Seaga is the first Prime Minister of this country who has consistently treated the population as if they were ignorant little children to be scolded, lectured to, chastised and told what is good for them by an all-wise leader whose word they must simply accept as gospel.

Mr. Seaga is seen as being unconcerned about poor people and the working class by many among the teachers, nurses, garbage collectors, firemen, JPS workers, sugar workers, and a wide cross section of those whose labour keeps this economy going. Even his Food Aid Programme appears not to have altered that image.

Beyond that many resent his method of carrying out policies without efforts to consult with and hear the views of those whose interests are affected.

Political disabilities

Our Prime Minister suffers from two other political disabilities. His conservative monetarist policies run against the grain of the traditions of public policy in Jamaica since the Moyne Commission. In that tradition hard times are periods when people look to government for jobs and assistance. Instead Mr. Seaga is laying-off workers and cutting and amputating long established services in the cause of good fiscal housekeeping. Secondly, these policies are being adversely felt by the vocal, articulate and influential middle and lower middle class in public sector jobs. They experienced upward social mobility in the earlier period of the rapidly growing public sector (1962-1980) and will never forgive Mr. Seaga for lay-offs and closures.

As a result, many citizens share the Rev. Davis' view that Mr. Seaga is an obstacle to progress in the country. Virtually everything is now blamed on Mr. Seaga, regardless of the objective economic problems that cause them.

The Prime Minister's metaphor that puts him in the role of a doctor administering unpleasantly harsh medicine is not even quite appropriate either. He assumes that time will prove him right as the medicine begins to show results. Even if Mr. Seaga's policies were absolutely correct, the foreign exchange crisis in the country does not give his policies even a 5 out of 100 chance of showing strong positive results in the time he has before the next elections have to be called.

Leftists groups

Even the World Bank's recent report on Jamaica concedes that by the most optimistic scenario the gaps left by the collapsing bauxite industry are not likely to be filled by non-traditional exports before the 1990's.

By that time Mr. Seaga's government will be a mere memory.

The unions were terribly organised to pull off the General Strike. They feared being upstaged by outside organisations and refused outside help. Leftist groups like the WPJ-UAWU who actively supported the strike were kept at a safe distance. PNP interest in getting some mileage out of the strike was frustrated by the resistance of many union leaders to any such politicising of the strike effort. It was sheer spontaneity that produced the lockdown of the economy. JLP notions that there was a plan to have Mr. Manley climax the strike by issuing the back-to-work call are quite inconsistent with the resistance of many delegates and many union leaders to any overt display of partisan politics.

Overwhelming response

On the Tuesday morning after the strike began, the response was so overwhelming that one could have organised a game of cricket or football in Cross Roads, Half-Way Tree or New Kingston in the middle of the street without disturbing traffic because there was virtually no traffic.

It is surely a sign of the unpopularity of the government that such a massive shutdown of the economy could have been achieved without any serious organisation by the unions.

Mr. Seaga has a very remarkable ability to create and inhabit his own world of reality. The strike Mr. Seaga talked about in Barbados has no connection whatever to the reality of events that took place here.

I look forward with interest to hear what conspiratorial revelations about the strike's authorship our Prime Minister has in store for us.

Some people try to challenge unpleasant reality by trying to change it. Others simply pretend that it does not exist. Perhaps that's the secret to Mr. Seaga's stubborn tenacity in the face of an increasingly deteriorating political situation.

23 August 1985

JAMAICA

PNP QUESTIONS GOVERNMENT USE OF NRA FOREIGN EXCHANGE FUNDS

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 23 Jul 85 p 43

[Text]

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Monday, (CANA)

— The opposition Peoples National Party (PNP) is querying the Jamaica Government's use of foreign exchange lodged in the administration's so-called National Retained Account (NRA) in the United States.

PNP chairman Percival Patterson told a party meeting government needed to level with the country about the use of US \$30 million in loans from an Austrian bank.

He questioned whether funds from the NRA in Miami had been transferred to an account in the Cayman Islands and whether foreign exchange bills were now being settled from the Cayman account.

The National Retained Account was set up by the Jamaica Government in the U.S as a means of keeping track of all foreign exchange transactions by public

and private companies. Under the scheme, hotels and other companies that are paid in external currencies must lodge such funds in the NRA instead of individual accounts.

In an attack on the policies of the ruling Jamaica Labour Party, Patterson said that at the beginning of the financial year some 18,000 workers in the public sector had been laid off and that in the current fiscal year 6,000 have been laid off with another 10,000 in the local government services. Another 5,000 - 6,000 will go before the end of the year, he claimed.

Accusing Prime Minister Edward Seaga of lack of consultation, he said that all sectors of the society had been isolated and that the government is pursuing a deliberate policy to destroy institutions in the country such as the trade union movement.

CSO: 3298/912

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS AGRICULTURE COULD EARN US \$500 MILLION MORE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

A factory is to be opened later this year in the Kingston Free Zone to buy pawpaws as its main item. Also, it will buy mangoes, bananas and pineapple.

Mr. Anthony Johnson, Minister of State for Agriculture, announced this yesterday in stating that Jamaica could earn an additional US\$500 million from the export of 10 agricultural products to make up for the loss of US\$300 million from bauxite-alumina earnings over the last three years.

He was outlining the prospects for expanding non-traditional exports at the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation-sponsored national retreat on the Structural Adjustment Programme at Wyndham Hotel, New Kingston.

According to *Jampress*, he said that Jamaica's economic problems were the result of the "fall-out" in bauxite earnings.

Mr. Johnson referred to the economic situation in Jamaica 100 years ago when sugar and coffee declined and the economic structure collapsed. He said it was bananas which came to the rescue employing 40% of the labour force and accounting for 80% of exports.

Similarly, the present decline in bauxite and sugar — the island's two major exports — while not causing collapse, had led to a great of uncertainty.

Therefore, as banana brought economic recovery in the 19th Century Jamaica had to develop new areas of exports, he added.

It was difficult to make a large thrust in traditional exports, Mr. Johnson said, because the country does not have the land space, marketing technology and advertising budget to compete with big countries.

He said that fortunately, there were several prospects for non-traditional exports. One of these, Papaya (pawpaw) had a large market in the United States of America. However, Jamaica has been embarrassed by the lack of capacity to produce Papaya for this market.

Efforts are being made to encourage the production of Papaya and a factory will be opened later this year in the Kingston Free Zone which will purchase Papaya as its main item. It will also buy mangoes, bananas and pineapple.

The other non-traditional exports for which there is a large market overseas are: mangoes, soursop, roses, Heliconia (Bird of Paradise), anthuriums, citrus, Passion Fruit, coffee and annatto.

Mr. Johnson challenged the private sector to get "into export agriculture and help build Jamaica."

JAMAICA

SEAGA AT CARICOM SUMMIT CITES GAINS FIGHTING DRUG DEALERS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 6 Jul 85 p 3

[Article by Vincent Tulloch]

[Text]

BRIDGETOWN, July 4

Several Jamaicans suspected of making millions of dollars from ganja and other drug deals and who had remained outside of the tax net, have been dragged before the courts and fined substantial sums, Prime Minister Seaga said here today.

At a press conference where he answered questions about the progress of his administration in tackling the drug trafficking in the country, a subject which received attention at this CARICOM summit, Seaga said that some of the 20 odd drug lords he said owed over J\$23 million in taxes have been brought to book.

Said he, "A number of them have in fact been brought before the court and have in fact been fined huge sums. Others are at stages where they will be brought before the court and others have made private settlements without contesting the claims against them." In respect of accusation from some American law makers that the country be denied assistance from that country until it puts its drug eradication programme in place, Seaga

said such claims are made from a position of lack of information.

He said that for this year alone, half the ganja crop has been destroyed and half the illegal airstrips demolished. Jamaica he said is not carrying out any programme to suit any country but its own interest. He said that the country was threatened from the illegal drug trade in that agricultural produce and other products are being subjected to intensive searches aboard and that the citizens too face daily problems, hence the need for the smashing of the trade.

On another issue, Seaga said that discussions are still taking place in relation to the establishment of casino in the country. Some contenders have been eliminated and we are talking to some he said.

On a quip on the economy of Cuba in relation to CARICOM he said that, that is not a market economy, and produces nothing that is not already produced here.

Seaga's press conference has been the major press event of the four-day Summit, with correspondent springing into action from what has been an otherwise dull Summit.

CSO: 3298/913

JAMAICA

ARSONISTS HIT HOSPITAL AGAIN; LINK TO EXPLOSIVES PROBED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Jul 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

TWO PATIENTS OF Upper Reitti Ward at the Kingston Public Hospital died yesterday morning after being evacuated during a fire set by arsonists. The ward and the new Physiotherapy Department of the hospital were destroyed by the fire, the second at the hospital in 14 days.

Police sources said their deaths were not caused by the fire, and they had been on the "critical and no recovery list."

Top police investigators were probing yesterday whether the latest fire was caused by an incendiary grenade, and strong police and military detachments were patrolling the hospital compound.

Around 3.45 a.m. yesterday, nurses and soldiers who were on duty said they heard something fall on the roof of Upper Reitti Ward. They smelled gasoline and shortly after there was a loud explosion, and a fire started on the wooden roof.

The nurses and other hospital workers quickly evacuated the 22 female patients in the ward, some of whom were on saline.

Two of them who were "very ill" died near daybreak. Their identities could not be ascertained up to press time.

Upper Reitti Ward and the new Physiotherapy Department of the hospital, which serves the entire island, were destroyed by the fire.

The Physiotherapy Department was opened last month and was equipped with the most sophisticated and modern equipment, the Gleaner understands.

Fire units being manned by Jamaica Defence Force soldiers were quickly on the scene, assisted by Fire Chief Allan Ridgeway and firemen of the KSAC who were not on suspension (most firemen are).

Staff of the National Water Commission increased water pressure in the area and by 6.30 a.m. the fire was under control and cooling down operations were in progress. Estimates of the damage could not be ascertained.

It was the second time in a fortnight that there was a fire at the hospital. The first, in the early morning hours of June 25, destroyed a storeroom and threatened the new wing of the hospital, and was suspected to have been caused by arsonists.

Patients had to be evacuated then also.

A Police Information Centre release yesterday on the fire said: "Top level police investigations into the fire which destroyed the Upper and Lower Reitti Wards of the Kingston Public Hospital this morning have now traced the cause of the fire to the work of arsonists."

"Reports reaching the police are that early this morning a loud bang was heard on the roof of Upper Reitti Ward and gas was smelt, following which the roof was seen on fire, and the police are now trying to determine if there is any connection between this fire and a certain kind of explosive which was found in the area surrounding the KPH yesterday (Sunday) evening."

"About 6.45 p.m., the police carried out an operation in the Matthews Lane area and at premises along Matthews Lane, which is about 10 chains south of KPH, a red hand grenade was found."

"The grenade, which appeared to contain fuel, was without a safety tip. It also bore what appeared to be the manufacturer's label which read 'if thrown into a building it causes fire.'"

"Further investigations are being carried out to determine the nature and source of the grenade."

"Meanwhile, investigations into the fire continue and there is now an increase in police security at KPH and surrounding areas."

In the June 25 fire, around 4.30 a.m. suspicious men were seen on the hospital compound and when an alarm was made they ran and shortly after there was an explosion and fire which destroyed the unoccupied Alexander, Elizabeth, Hunt and Ross Wards.

One hundred and thirty patients had to be evacuated from Lower and Upper Nuttall and Upper Reitti Wards, which were threatened.

The Kingston Public Hospital is one of the oldest and biggest hospitals in the island and occupies a city block bounded by Princess Street to the east, Rose Lane to the west, North Street to the north and Charles Street to the south.

Yesterday's fire was at the Rose Lane and Charles Street section.

The Victoria Jubilee Hospital is on the same compound but is separated from it by North Street.

CSO: 3298/913

23 August 1985

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH YUGOSLAVIA--Jamaica is willing to explore possible areas for joint venture with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to strengthen trade and co-operation between the two countries. This was stated by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, the Rt Hon Hugh Shearer, as he met with the outgoing Ambassador of Yugoslavia to Jamaica (resident in Guyana), Dr Janko Lazarevski, on July 4 at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Under such arrangements, Yugoslavia while providing expertise and investment, would benefit from Jamaican skills and expertise, good infrastructure, air and surface transport, efficient public and private sector structures, competitive labour costs, and Jamaica's access to the United States market under the Caribbean Basin Initiative Programme. The Yugoslav Ambassador expressed his country's willingness to pursue the avenues towards greater practical co-operation with Jamaica. Also discussed were general international issues such as the programme of the International Bauxite Association, disputes and tensions in Central America and the North Korea and South Korea dialogue. Dr Lazarevski, who was accompanied by Mr Slavko Ostojic, left the island on the weekend. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 8 Jul 85 p 3]

METALS SURVEY--Kingston, July 14--Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga and the acting Canadian high commissioner here, Donald Butler, have signed an agreement for the undertaking of a metallic survey project here. The agreement represents the first phase of the project, a statement from the Canadian High Commission said. The Canadian Government's contribution to the project, provided through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is approximately J\$3.2 million dollars (Can 776,000 dollars), while the Jamaican Government will contribute approximately J\$240,000 dollars from counterpart funds generated from the sale of Canadian commodity assistance in the form of fish and fertilizer. The Canadian contribution will be used to finance the capital and operating costs of the survey, including field sampling equipment and supplies, sample preparation, lab equipment and supplies, communications and camp equipment, Canadian geological and geochemical field personnel, vehicles and administrative services among other things. The objective of the project is to support Jamaica's overall economic development through increased investment and promotion of productive activities in the mineral sector, the statement said. It is anticipated that field work will start in November and end in March 1986. The final report is expected by June 1986. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2012 GMT 14 Jul 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/914

NICARAGUA

BOLANOS CRITICIZES FSLN AT COSEP MEETING

Excerpts From Speech

PA231836 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 18 Jul 85 pp 1, 12

[All quotation marks as published]

[Text] "Private enterprise will not leave, and it will not give up." This was the unanimous decision of the members of the Higher Council of Private Enterprises [COSEP] during their annual meeting yesterday at the Cinema Two theater in this capital.

"Not everything is over and done with in Nicaragua; there is still much to fight for," COSEP President Enrique Bolanos said at the annual private enterprise meeting.

Bolanos asked Nicaraguans to unite "in the struggle against the FSLN's enslaving regime because it is a struggle of all the Nicaraguans."

Bolanos added that the Nicaraguan people are frustrated because after removing the Somoza dictatorship, "they are today facing a totalitarian military regime which is trying to impose slavery and promote hatred, poverty, hunger, expropriation, and the deaths of our sons to defend the party in power. These are the weapons they are using against their own people, in addition to the Soviet cannons and rifles.

Speaking about the Sandinists, Bolanos said: You cannot deal honestly with cheaters.

The Sandinists have warned us, as something forbidden to us, to stay away from politics. However, "if the regime assumes the role of private enterprise, private enterprise will then become more political," Bolanos said.

Here are portions of Bolanos' speech: "I want on this occasion to thank friends here and abroad, as well as local and foreign business organizations, political parties, and labor organizations, for their demonstrations of solidarity and sympathy in view of the insults my family and I have been subjected to. God bless you all."

"Commander Humberto Ortega has stated clearly that Sandinism marches indissolubly united with Marxism-Leninism, which is the scientific doctrine guiding the revolution."

"In the expression and attitude of the majority of people there is a noticeable feeling of frustration, because they were freed from a dictatorship with false promises, only to see it replaced with a military totalitarian regime, which has brought to our country a shortage of products, long lines, individual and collective poverty, persecution, horror, and terror. In sum, it seems slavery will remain forever in Nicaragua."

We have been divided into sides, and brothers are fighting brothers. The hatred of one class has been encouraged to exterminate the other. Families have been divided, and religious belief attacked. Our children's education is being controlled, and our sons are forced to fight and die to defend a party. We are being dominated, atheism encouraged, and parent-child relationships altered."

"In Nicaragua Marxism-Leninism is using every type of weapon to wage this war of total world domination. Education, religion, politics, propaganda, culture, diplomacy, language, shortages and poverty are weapons used against the people in repression and oppression. In addition, submachine guns, tanks, and other military weapons are being used by the pawns of international communism to attack their own people."

"To fight this we must be united. Those opposed to all this are accused of meddling in politics. To participate in politics means being a party member participating in the activities and privileges of power."

"However, the true meaning of politics is the effort made for the welfare of the majority and the dedication to serve others. Man is participating in politics when he votes, and also when he does not vote. Man is participating in politics when he acts and participates to serve the majority and when he abstains from participating for the general interest of the people."

"Man's participation in politics is negative and harmful when he accepts the abuses, intrigues, threats, lies, cruelty, and insolence of the strong who bring unhappiness to their people. Man participates positively and efficiently in politics when he opposes those actions and the conduct of the rulers."

"We know that it is hard to deal honestly with cheaters, and the temptation to go away and try to forget out of negligence and fear is strong. However, if we want to stop this totalitarian system seeking to enslave us in all aspects of life, we must be watchful and active in matters of education, religion, culture, and production. This is to participate in politics."

"This is an ideological struggle rather than a struggle among political parties. This is a struggle between opposing systems and conflicting morals, rather than historical parallels. This is the decisive struggle of the Nicaraguan people. Nobody can stand on the sidelines because to do so is tantamount to surrendering before fighting. It is like being buried alive. In short, it means to stop being a Christian and a Nicaraguan. Worse yet, it is to stop being a man."

"Regarding our specific situation, as members of the productive sector, private sector organizations comprising COSEP participate in politics to the extent that the FSLN and the Sandinist regime participate in production as businessmen. The more businesslike the regime is, the more political COSEP is. That concept brings us all together today in this theater."

"The FSLN's doctrine has always espoused the elimination of private property in order to subdue all Nicaraguans to the dictates of one single pattern: the state's. The organized private sector, according to the Sandinist ideology's grand plans, must be annihilated one way or another."

"As part of that overall plan to hamper the private sector, Sandinism has created parallel organizations such as the CONAPRO Heroes and Martyrs [Heroes and Martyrs Confederation of Nicaraguan Professional Associations] and UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen] which the Sandinist regime has granted temporary political power so long as they are subservient to the regime's whims. But we know these groups will have their comeuppance."

"Everybody, absolutely everybody--you; UNAG; CONAPRO Heroes and Martyrs; those going about quietly hiding their existence; and I--our days have been numbered since 19 July 1979. Some will come first, others will come later."

"To prevent that from happening, COSEP is involved actively in the nation's developments. There are those who call this participating in politics. Anyone COSEP's participation and struggle, together with other organizations, particularly the Democratic Coordinating Board, have managed not only to delay that process of enslavement, but have also brought hope."

"I especially want to remind the OAS and the Contadora Group countries most of all that on 18 June 1979 the National Reconstruction Government issued a proclamation addressed to the Nicaraguan people, the world's brother countries, and democratic governments, promising the installation of a de jure government and submitting a program to rebuild Nicaragua within the framework [of] Western democracy."

"The program for a national reconstruction government is a major document. As legal experts have told me, it constitutes what is called 'the proposal,' the most important legal element of which is that the group making the proposal (FSLN) cannot withdraw or change it."

"The 'proposal's' acceptance by the three entities involved needs no corroboration. But we can say that the Nicaraguan people showed their acceptance by striving to topple Somoza. The world's brother nations showed their acceptance through countless demonstrations of solidarity and support for that struggle."

"Therefore, from the standpoint of international law, a commitment equivalent to a contract between the American governments and Nicaraguan revolutionary government was drawn. The Sandinist government's noncompliance with that contract constitutes a violation of basic legal international norms, seriously damaging the legitimacy of the government breaching the contract: the Sandinist government."

"Why, then, do we hear voices claiming for the FSLN the rights to the people's self-determination and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of a state, thus trying to protect the Sandinists from internal as well as international demands concerning their broken promises?

"Is it perhaps fitting to listen to such claims from democratic governments which, in fact, should insist that the promises they received be kept?

What sort of right to self-determination for the Nicaraguan people is invoked when the FSLN has confiscated this right as well as almost all of Nicaragua?

Isn't it true that the FSLN controls, utilizes, and benefits from everything, with the help of thousands of foreigners who, under the title of "internationalist brothers," have deprived the country of its sovereignty for the sake of an international political movement?"

"The crippling and static concept contained in the principle of nonintervention must no longer be used as a pretext to defend the abuses committed by a group which, thanks to propaganda and slogans [preceding word in English] disseminated by international communism's propaganda machine, took power in Nicaragua through deception and holds on to power through repression under the military boot."

"If that were the case, the continental intervention to topple Somoza had no foundation, if the goal was to impose the international communist movement. If that were the case, the rights and justice I am pleading for would have no foundation for being, nor would the values those democratic governments believe in and claim to fight for have had any foundation. If that were the case, communism is very right: Mankind's destiny belongs to them."

"Various speakers have informed us about the gradual and already completed elimination of the mixed economy as it was presented in the original government plan. The entire world is watching us and is especially watchful of the Sandinist regime's unfulfilled promises."

"The original revolution, that of liberating and democratic principles, has died, and it is being replaced by the international communist revolution. The Western democratic world is observing and taking notes. The brother Central American countries are fearful."

"The more the Sandinist regime moves away from its original ideals, its original promises, the more entangled it becomes in its own web of lies. Gradually Sandinism is losing friends in the democratic world and is becoming a mere caretaker for its bosses in the Kremlin."

"They are at a loss to explain why the guidelines contained in the communist handbook have not worked. They expected democracy and freedom fighters to leave--even if this meant jumping over a wall. That is what usually happens in countries where communism prevails or intends to prevail."

"They are amazed to learn that although our properties have been confiscated and we have been humiliated, that although we are facing serious threats, we do not want to flee. Quite the opposite, we stay on to continue fighting."

"I have more time now to continue accompanying all of you, with the same energy and commitment as ever; in this civic struggle, this totally civic struggle."

"To all those who say we must leave Nicaragua, I recall the wise words of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, our beloved guide and pastor, who said: Those who want peace do not leave their fatherland."

"As I said at the annual meeting of the INDE [Nicaraguan Institute of Development], Cardinal Obando y Bravo's words constitute a moral mandate for us all: Cardinal Obando y Bravo, here we are."

Radio Sandino Reaction

PA181554 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Text] Enrique Bolanos Geyer, president of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP], this morning acted melodramatically before the international press, trying to manipulate the difficult situation of thousands of small and medium-size businessmen which is caused by the U.S. trade embargo. During a meeting in the Cinema Two, Bolanos Geyer used all the ideological weapons and resources utilized by the reactionaries and the counterrevolutionaries when he described our country as a pawn of international communism.

In his speech, the businessman, who fully used the existing freedom of expression, said that today it is dangerous to get involved in politics, but he told the COSEP leadership gathered in the Managua theater that the private business sector will be involved in national politics. He also openly said that they must struggle against the Sandinist government to prevent it from becoming enthroned in power.

Like the different sectors of the imperialist propaganda, he stressed the alleged arms buildup by Nicaragua, but in no way did he refer to the growing Yankee aggression that has already been acknowledged in various international forums. He did not refer to the U.S. attitude of becoming an international (?criminal) due to its disregard for the authority of the United Nations and its violation of the international navigation and trade agreements and the human rights of thousands of peasants killed by the Somozist mercenaries who attack the country.

Bolanos Geyer also accused the Nicaraguan Government of trying to eliminate the private sector in the economy, classifying the entire private sector as a member of the quite reduced ranks of COSEP, and ignoring the 125,000 producers organized in the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen, UNAG.

At the end of his speech to the wealthy business sector, Bolanos Geyer heavily praised Father Bismarck Carballo, who addressed the meeting on behalf of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo.

PERU

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE INVESTIGATED ARMS SHIPMENT TO NICARAGUA

Lima OIGA in Spanish 15 Jul 85 pp 10-13

[Article by Fernando Flores Araoz and Gerardo Barraza: "Peru Involved in Arms Traffic to Nicaragua"]

[Text] Early last week a terse international cable broadcast the news to the world: On 3 July Danish seaman Ole Jespersen Sorth, captain of the ship "Bonto Folmer," had been arrested in Costa Rica.

The reason? When his ship docked at the Punta Arenas port on the Costa Rican Pacific coast, a 1200-kilo load of light weapons was found during a routine inspection. The weapons had been manufactured in the FRG and their final destination was the port of Corinto in Nicaragua.

Actually, Costa Rican customs police did not have the slightest problem in finding the weapons. They were recorded on the cargo manifest carried by the Danish captain.

Costa Rican Government authorities, invoking their neutral position in the Central American conflict, seized the shipment destined for the Sandinists. Up to here the story would have nothing special about it and would be part of what is happening normally in a zone which is the scene of multiple guerrilla conflagrations and where it is expected--let us that it not be so and that Contadora can prevent--there will be a war which could involve Nicaragua, El Salvador and Honduras.

However, the case had repercussions in Peru and other countries such as Chile, Spain and the FRG itself when details on the mysterious voyage of the "Bonto Folmer" and the documents having to do with the transportation of the weapons became known.

Peru Involved

It happens that the cargo manifest with the weapons had been issued in our country by the branch office in Matarani of the Agencia Maritima Lima S. A., whose general manager is Carlos Pro.

According to the aforementioned document, the weapons appeared to have been loaded at the Chilean port of Iquique. The "Bonto Folmer" had arrived

in Matarani from Chile on 21 June. It departed the following day after loading 402 metric tons of borates (fertilizer) ordered by the Fletonav S. A. Company, a Peruvian firm, with Costa Rica as the destination. What cargo, other than the weapons, had the ship supposedly received at Iquique before arriving in Matarani? Officially this information, which would explain the reason for the stop at the Chilean port, is still unknown.

The truth is that Captain Jespersen Sorth told the port authorities of Matarani that he was carrying 1,200 kilos of "various weapons for delivery at the port of Corinto in Nicaragua. He did not reveal the origins of the cargo nor the names of the consignees since, it is said, Peruvian port authorities do not have the authority to demand greater specifications pursuant to the standards of international maritime trade ("vessels are free to transport any merchandise provided they report its nature at the ports where they arrive").

If the captain of the "Bonto Folmer" had not revealed the nature of his cargo, he would have committed the crime of smuggling in our country.

The ship left Matarani on 22 June and arrived at Callao 2 days later. At our first port it was to have taken on fish meal, also on order from Fletonav, but owned by Productos de Exportacion S. R. Ltda. However, problems related to the strike in the fishing sector prevented the cargo from being loaded. The "Bonto Folmer" had no need to enter the port, remaining in the bay and leaving at 1700 25 June for Punta Arenas, Costa Rica, en route to Corinto.

Strange, Very Strange

Reports worthy of credit received by OIGA through its network of correspondents abroad, allow one to determine that the shipment of weapons was not loaded at Iquique. For the rest, it is absurd and incredible to suppose that the Pinochet government will allow the shipment of weapons from its territory to Nicaragua.

Where, then, was the shipment loaded?

According to our investigations, the shipment was received at the port of Bilbao, Spain, late in May. The weapons, which originated in Germany, could have arrived overland at Bilbao, a port located in the so-called "Basque Country" where the territories of the ETA operate. Is this another proof of the announced international connection among the terrorist and guerrilla movements operating in the world?

The "Bonto Folmer" crossed the Atlantic and arrived at the American continent early in June. A question still to be answered arises here. Did it pass through the Panama Canal and from there go to Iquique to lay a false trail and spread a smokescreen over the origins and shipment of the weapons? Or did it arrive in Iquique through the Straits of Magellan, as it seems the captain declared, after having picked up some unknown cargo at an Argentine port, which could be Necochea?

The suspicious itinerary of the ship remains to be explained.

Intervention by Peruvian Agencies

Carlos Pro, the manager of Agencia Maritima Lima, said that his agency limited itself to providing customs services help for loading in Matarani and that which was to have been accomplished in Callao. This was the first time that the "Bonto Folmer" anchored in Peruvian ports and Pro supposes that the weapons were loaded in Iquique, in a country like Chile where the military dictatorship of Pinochet has a strict control over the entire territory, even more so when it is a matter of trade in weapons. On the other hand, Pro acknowledged that it would appear unlikely that it happened that way. Why, then, did his agency issue the cargo manifest indicating Iquique as the port of embarkation?

The manager of Marlima said that Captain Jespersen created a problem because he wanted to go to the Nicaraguan port of Corinto first--the reasons are obvious--before touching at Punta Arenas, Costa Rica. However, it appears that the agents had required that he first leave the load of borates in Punta Arena, where the ship was finally detained.

What participation have Marlima and Fletonav, the Peruvian agencies, had in the traffic in weapons and the "takeoff operation" accomplished by the "Bonto Folmer" and its captain?

Beyond the statements of Carlos Pro of Marlina--Fletonav manager Joseph Mora could not be found in his offices at Miraflores--OIGA made its own investigations.

The Agencia Maritima Lima up until a short time ago had among its main customers the Cuban company Mambisa and the Soviet companies Morflot, Odesa, Sovriflot, Sovinplot, Black Sea Shipping Company and Primorsk. Months ago the Soviets created their own company, the Agencia Maritima Concord, which takes care of the operations related to their basically fishing vessels.

And what type of company is Fletonav?

The Mysterious Senor Mora

Jose Mora is the manager of Fletamentos y Operaciones Navieras del Peru, S. A. [Charter and Shipping Operations of Peru, Inc.] (FLETONAV), a company which leased the services of the "Bonto Folmer."

The Fletonav office is located at a central street of Miraflores, 103 Francisco Recavarren Street. There, in office 604 on the sixth floor, is where Fletonav operates. This office is shared with an engineer's consulting company. The secretary only answers the calls for Mora and talks to him via an intercommunicator. She said that since she has been with the company a very short time she is completely unaware of the activities of Fletonav.

(An odd employer who does not tell his secretary about his line of business or its activities.)

The enigmatic Mora could not be found in his office on either Thursday or Friday. Moreover, since the company number is not in the telephone directory, it was impossible to talk to him by telephone. His only employee--the attentive secretary--did not know the home address or private telephone number of her mysterious employer.

In addition to not having an identifying sign, the Fletonav office is very little known by the residents of the building where it is located. They are also completely unaware of its activities.

Who is Mora and what does he do? He is little known in maritime circles. It was learned that at this time an official of the navy is investigating the activities of Fletonav and its manager, as well as everything related to the part played by Marlina and other persons in this strange case of transporting weapons to Sandinist Nicaragua.

Costa Rican Actions

Were the weapons to remain in Nicaragua? Or more probably will those German light rifles have as their final destination the Salvadoran guerrillas, who recently have intensified their terrorist activities with the murder of six persons in a centrally located restaurant of San Salvador? These are some of the questions the Costa Rican authorities investigating the case are asking themselves today.

Meanwhile, the Costa Rican Government has officially made contact with the FRG to ask for information about the sale of the weapons seized.

In Peru, the intelligence services, particularly that of the navy, have been working on the case. It is known that Admiral Dubois, minister of the navy, has received a first report.

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PERU

MILITARY REPORTED QUESTIONING FEASIBILITY OF MIRAGE PURCHASE

Lima OIGA in Spanish 15 Jul 85 pp 14-16

[Article by Fernando Flores Araoz: "Turbulence in the Purchase of Mirages"]

[Text] To the \$50 million Peru paid in December 1982 to order the production of 21 Mirage 2000 aircraft from French manufacturers has been added an unrevealed sum for the actual delivery in coming months of the first two aircraft, whose test flights were witnessed recently by Air Force General Cesar Enrico Praeli in France.

From where did this money come? That is the question the people and political leaders of the country are asking. The rumor circulated that the payment had been made by the Argentines as part of the debt they contracted with Peru for the support given them during the Malvinas War.

However, in reliable military sources it has been learned that the payment for insuring the acquisition of the aircraft--which has the negative opinion of all political sectors because of the crisis the country is undergoing--the payment was made by the air force with money from its budget which had not been used. However, there are those who believe that the payment was legally inappropriate.

Storm in the Air

In military circles there are those who severely question the operation of the purchase of the Mirage 2000's, not only because of the present impossibility of the country to increase its unpayable foreign debt but also because of reasons inherent in the conditions of the sales contract themselves.

Let us Look at the Background

Perhaps never in the history of the purchase of weapons of this magnitude and cost has a contract been negotiated and signed so quickly under peacetime conditions. Negotiations began in August 1982. In December of the same year the contract had already been concluded and at that time the \$50 million of the initial payment were paid.

Considering the operation in itself, was it good?

Specialized sources consulted by OIGA explained that Peru was one of the four countries which payed what is called the development costs of the Mirage 2000. The other three were France--naturally--Egypt and India.

Because of that circumstance Peru deserved preferential treatment, as is usual in contracts for military aviation. And it was not only for this reason, but also because the Peruvian purchase in a way broke the South American balance and opened a market to the French. Because of the Peruvian purchase, other countries were to follow. And it seems to have happened that way.

Costs

However, Peru has not been given preferential treatment. Let us look at the costs and compare them with those of other aircraft.

It has been reported, without a denial of any sort by the Peruvian Air Force [FAP], that each Mirage has cost \$26 million. This is a sophisticated aircraft, it is true, but it has only one engine. The F-18's purchased by the Spanish, according to a report by ABC of Madrid, costs the same and it is an aircraft with two engines.

But that is not all. Spain has paid \$26 million for each aircraft, including that which is called "limits outside of battery": three-dimensional radar, armament and spare parts for a period of time of several years. In the case of the Mirages purchased by the FAP, these are not included. This inclusion would raise the price by approximately 30 percent, which would make it more than \$31 million for each aircraft.

Moreover, as ABC of Madrid reports, the purchase of the U.S. F-18's has meant compensations for Spain. The United States has pledged to purchase nontraditional Spanish products during the first 2 years of the program in the amount of \$77 million. What are the French doing in the case of Peru? As far as is known they have not pledged to do anything as far as trade compensations are concerned.

According to the sources consulted by OIGA, the overall amount of the operation of purchasing the Mirages at the end of the program will be around \$3 billion. (How much could be done for national development with that sum!)

Not only will the languishing and meager budget of the republic be affected by the inopportune purchase of the Mirages. It is said that the budgets of the other armed institutes such as the navy and army would also be affected; they would be practically prevented from making the necessary renewal of their military equipment in coming years.

None of these reasons appear to have been considered by General Cesar Enrico, who went to France to insure the operation at the very moment in which voices questioning it were raised in the country.

Enrico said on his return from France that if we did not buy the Mirage aircraft, we would suffer a contract penalty of \$360 million. Can a contract condition of that nature be conceived for a preferred customer such as Peru was in the case of the Mirage 2000? Does national dignity not enter into this affair? These are some of the questions circulating today in reputable military circles. Also circulating in the political environment is another question: "Did the National Defense Commission see in secret session the final operation related to the purchase of the Mirages?"

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PERU

6 NEW, YOUNG LEGISLATORS' BACKGROUNDS, VIEWS REPORTED

Lima OIGA in Spanish 15 Jul 85 pp 32-36

[Article by Zaimon Pitter: "The new Faces of the new Legislature"]

[Text] The national political scene is characterized by the invasion of youth. A high percentage of the voters who went to the polls on 14 April consisted of young citizens who were voting for the first time. It was not strange, therefore, that youth has a large representation in the new legislature. Times of change. Times of renewal.

Could it be different, for example, if our president-elect, Alan Garcia, is only 36 years old, half the age of the present president, Fernando Belaunde? With Alan Garcia in the PAP [Aprista Party of Peru] there was a complete generational leap which left along the way--on the bench of replacements--the greater part of the Aprista intermediate generation. Other parties have not had such an obvious renovation but they have shown new faces.

Is it only a matter of "new faces" or are there new ideas and a different style of engaging in politics behind them and with them? This is what OIGA has tried to find out in a first survey among the very new generation of legislators. Jose Barba Caballero (PAP [Aprista Party of Peru]), Javier Bedoya (PPC [Popular Christian Party]), Carlos Blancas (DC [Expansion unknown]), Alberto Borea Odria (MBH [Movement of the Haya Rank and File]), Victor Andres Garcia Belaunde (AP [Popular Action]) and Manuel Piqueras (IU [United Left]) answered our questions as to what they think about the present political times, the meaning of the youth invasion of the legislature and the main bills they are thinking of presenting in the first phase of the legislative activities. All of them belong to a generation which vaguely--and with the pardon of Ortega y Gasset and his 15 intergenerational years--place themselves on "base three," as it is said locally [allusion unclear].

Certainly not all of them are. In the case of the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] Alfredo Barnechea, Remigio Morales Bermudez, Leonidas Velez, Romulo Leon, Wilber Bendezu and others, must be mentioned.

One odd note: All those interviewed, except Barbo, belong to the schools of the Catholic University, where they were student leaders. That is why

on the day of the awarding of credentials, Agustin Haya, reelected deputy of the IU, said to his former companion in student struggles, Javier Bedoya: "This legislature appears to be from the Catholic University."

Finally, and so as not to make this preamble any longer, let us go on to our interviewees and the answers they made to our questions.

Jose Barba Caballero (PAP, 32 years of age)

He began his membership in the PAP in 1965, combining his sports activities (at that time a Greco-Roman wrestling champion) with party work. He was a student leader in the San Martin de Porres University, where he concluded his law studies. He has been national undersecretary of publicity, national secretary of Latin American integration and is now secretary of international relations of the PAP. He is the author of "Haya and Mariategui Before History" (1979), and of other varied works of ideopolitical nature.

He does not believe there is a different style but that the new style brought by the "vanguard generation of 1920," is simply being reinforced. More specifically, there has emerged a current of youthful vigor in Aprismo "after the death and loss of its founder, for which we were not prepared." Times change and "the passion and faith which only a young mind can give it, and which is summarized in the word HOPE," has been injected into the party. He also recalls the voice of Haya de la Torre when he said he expected "new generations which will overtake and exceed us."

"We legislators are going to engage in an actual function of oversight and criticism because the main point of our problem is morality. More than a law, I bring with me a contract which seems very important to me. It is the Bill for the Labor Universities, which I have coordinated with socialist friends in the PSOE [Spanish Socialist Workers Party] and the Spanish Government itself. These technical training centers will allow the deprived worker to specialize himself in some area of human endeavor."

Javier Bedoya de Vivanco (PPC, 36 years old)

He has followed politics since a boy when his father, Luis Bedoya Reyes, was the leader of the DC and mayor of Lima. A student leader in the PUC [Pontifical Catholic University], a student in literature and law, he paired up with Carlos Blancas--also elected deputy--and also with Manuel Dammert and Augustin Haya, reelected deputies. In 1978 he supported the campaign for the constituent assembly and in 1980 he joined in the work of the PJ [Young Towns] with Carlos Sotomarin. In November 1980 he was elected councilman in the Municipality of Lima and he presided over the Legal Affairs Committee of the municipality until 1983. He is now the provincial under-secretary of the Lima PPC.

"There was a new style, which appeared after the first government of Belaunde, but which just succeeded in the constituent assembly, that of strengthening the democratic system in the country. Generational renovation is natural, the result of political renovation in powers, which brings with it the

renovation of persons. The military government, by setting politics aside for 12 years, caused the same leaders of 1968 to reappear in 1980."

He is preparing several bills: The Law on Employment Incentives (especially for the young, exempting them from tax burdens); Law on Decentralization ("to begin with, departmental agencies should be headed by the provincial mayor and their members will not have to be appointed by the Executive Branch as they do now."); Law of Social Security Reorganization ("management of which should be by a tripartite committee: the state, the insured and employers"), and other law bills.

Carlos Blancas Bustamante (DC, 38 years of age)

He was a student leader in the PUC in the University Left, a group of Christian Socialist affiliation, during 1966-1967. In 1971 he was the National Youth Secretary and in 1972, at age 25, he became DC secretary general, from which he withdrew because of internal problems in 1974. He rejoined the already miniscule DC in December 1979 and in 1980, after an acute internal crisis, he was named president of that organization.

Overall this generational changing of the guard in the constituent assembly appeared, according to Blancas, with the presence of young people like Javier Diez Canseco, Carlos Roca and Alan Garcia. He revealed that while it is a "natural process," it brings with it a change in political style, and a new type of response in which formalities are eliminated and there is a greater contact with the people. "That is what is happening now in APRA, which if it had maintained the style of its founders would have lost attractiveness for the young."

He is interested in labor legislation: Law of Work Stability; Law on Strikes; Law on Work Collective Negotiations and others of similar nature that will insure the constitutional principles on work with these types of institutions. In the medium term he hopes for a systematization and codification of Peruvian labor law (here we told him that he appeared to be talking as a future member of the Executive Branch).

Alberto Borea Odria (MBH, 34 years of age)

In 1968 he was first secretary general of the "Palestra" Apostolic Movement, before becoming a student leader together with Javier Bedoya, replacing Carlos Blanca, who was graduating from the PUC. He was founder of the Student Democratic Left of APRA affiliation in 1971. In 1978 he was national secretary for foreign affairs of the PAP and was appointed by Haya to be candidate to the constituent assembly when he was only 25. He is now associate secretary general of the MBH.

"There has been a release of the politicians who were 'dammed up' in 1980. They have had to wait until 1985 and that is the reason for the election of the young. As far as political style is concerned, there is a different way of viewing the world. The old way was by people linked to the emergence of the PJ, while we have them already as part of our reality, they

coexist with us and that leads to a different way of dealing with the political problem."

He has already prepared a reform of the internal regulations of the legislative chambers, a draft bill on the role of the Attorney General's Office that will guide its activities; family courts for the decentralization of family justice; a law on agrarian insurance (when a peasant loses his crop, he can recover); law on the organization of volunteer labor; and a new law of habeas corpus and safeguards, which incorporates the latest advances in jurisprudence.

Victor Andres Garcia Belaunde (AP--35 years of age)

He was 18 years old and a student of literature at the PUC when on 3 October 1968 he went out to protest against the military coup. After a beating, he was accused of leading this first "counterrevolutionary movement" and he was declared guilty of all the damage done that day. He continued his studies abroad, returning to participate in the events of 5 February 1975, although this time he was not accused of blame. In 1978 he joined the AP General Plenary Session as secretary of professional affairs. In 1980, hardly elected, Belaunde charged him with installing the office of government transfer and then called upon him to occupy the secretariat of the Council of Ministers, where he is still working.

"Peru is a different country. There are other tasks and the crisis is more profound, which forces a change in styles, behavior and programs." With respect to the well-known phrase by Gonzalez Prada, he said that "we young people must always be in struggle and the old who feel young should continue to fight."

He believes it is important that there be a law of political parties, a law for industrial development zones (so as to turn them into satellite cities and halt the movement to Lima); a law on coal (encouraging its use as a substitute for petroleum); a law for redimensioning the state (particularly in the economic-financial sector) and a law for the promotion of social housing.

Manuel Piqueras Luna (IU, 38 years of age)

He organized the FESC Movement which was later led by Javier Diez Canseco. He was trained in the early days of October 1968. He later went to Chile where he remained until the "Pinochetazo" of September 1973. From there he returned to Peru where he devoted himself to rural activities in the PJ, for which reason he feels very close to the "process of the crossing of the white and Indian races that takes place here." An unorthodox socialist, he joined the IU in 1980 as an independent to help in the municipal plan. He now works in the municipality of Lima coordinating the social organizations of the PJ.

He described his class (Diez Canseco, Agustin Haya, and so forth) as the "tip of the iceberg." This "class of change, has physical roots in the

popular sectors and the hope of achieving a profound intellectual and moral reform in the country." About Alan he said: "His position of change is still to be seen. It oscillates between the moderate reformism of Victor Andres Belaunde and the radical reform of Haya." With respect to the legislature, he recalled that the "people of the Left" have maintained an intellectual and cultural superiority during the last decades and for that reason, he predicted, "the Left will dominate in the legislature."

He is interested in legislating on survival programs: Employment, food, health and education. He is also interested in a law for installing an emergency regional government in Ayacucho, which will give priority to agrarian development. After describing the present legislature as "anachronistic and inoperative," he showed himself to be an advocate of a constitutional reform that will call for a single chamber, half of it elected by popular suffrage and the other half territorial or regional representatives.

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TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ELECTION CHANGES HINTED AT; NAR EXPRESSES CONCERN

Joint Local, National Poll

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 20 Jul 85 p 1

[Article by Andy Johnson]

[Text]

VOTERS in Trinidad and Tobago could be going to the polls next year in one single exercise which will encompass both the Local Government and the general elections.

A rising tide of support for this move is at present developing within the Elections and Boundaries Commission, where senior officials are saying the idea is a workable one.

"This is a highly political issue and is something for the politicians to decide upon," Commission chairman, retired Chief Justice Sir Isaac Hyatali, said yesterday when contacted on the issue.

Other senior officials of the Commission have suggested, however, that the EBC had the skills and the capacity to undertake such an exercise which, it is said, would save the country "a whole hell of a lot of money."

The EXPRESS understands also that a growing lobby within the Commission is seeking to press Hyatali to make such a recommendation to the Government.

"Elections are a costly exercise," one senior commissioner said this week, "and we can do with the savings that would accrue from holding both polls together."

"We can easily do it," another commissioner said yesterday.

Local Government elections are constitutionally due in August next year while general elections are due three months later, in November. In the event of a combined election, the Local Government polls, which would be held for Trinidad alone, would have to be postponed.

Commissioners at the EBC have suggested that the combined elections could take place on an extended ballot, with Local Government and general elections candidates all together, or that there could be separate ballot sheets for the two and voters would be required to cast their respective votes accordingly.

Additional Constituencies

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 20 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

THERE have been early hints that the number of electoral constituencies for the general elections in Trinidad and Tobago could be increased by at least four seats.

It is understood that the increases should come mainly in the East-West corridor which, according to estimates from sources at the Elections and Boundaries Commission, grew by at least 50,000 residents in the last three or four years.

In this period the Government alone has

opened up several housing estates — Maloney Lands, Bon Air Gardens, La Horguetta, Malabar. "We cannot make changes to electoral boundaries, but we can recommend to the parliamentarians that this be done, based on our studies of the situation," EBC chairman, Sir Isaac Hyatali said yesterday when contacted on the matter.

In an interview at his office in the Salvatori building, Frederick Street, Port of Spain, Hyatali said, however, it was "conceivable" that

the commission would make recommendations for an increase in the electoral constituencies.

There are at present 36 electoral constituencies in Trinidad and Tobago. They are divided almost equally, with an average of 12,000 voters being the demarcation figure. Constituencies are required to have not more than 19,000 voters and not less than 10,000.

Politicians have been suggesting that with at least 40 seats the PNM could romp home easy winners.

Alliance Concerns

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 24 Jul 85 p 48

[Text]

THE National Alliance has expressed "grave concern" about statements reportedly made by officials of the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) that the commission's district supervisors have been "canvassing the view that the Local Government elections and the general elections should be held at the same time in the interest of effecting financial economics."

The EXPRESS reported last Saturday that senior officials of the EBC have suggested that the holding of the two election exercises at the same time would save the country a lot of money. Local Government elections are due in August next year, while the general election is likely

to take place the following November.

According to a release issued by the Alliance yesterday, the matter came up at a party meeting on Monday, attended by party leader A.N.R. Robinson, deputy leader Basdeo Panday, and other party officials. There was unanimous feeling then that the dates of elections are "political matters," and that if, in fact, such suggestions were made, this called into question the impartiality of the officials. This was felt to be particularly serious at a time when a nationwide registration exercise is in progress.

Alliance officials are to seek an early meeting with the chairman of the commission, Sir Isaac Hyatali, to clarify the issue.

CS0: 3298/922

23 August 1985

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

COMMISSION BEGINS ELECTION-REGISTRATION UPDATE

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 22 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Elections and Boundaries Commission begins a nationwide house-to-house registration update today which its chairman, Sir Isaac Hyatali, has described as being of "the utmost importance."

The exercise will be carried out by 1,400 Itinerant Assistant Registration Officers (IARO) over a 10-week period.

The IARO will prepare new record cards for all persons qualified to be registered as electors who were not registered previously.

The officers will also update the information which makes up the Unit Register of Electors established on the basis of the 1961 renunciation.

New registrants must produce a birth certificate issued by the Registrar General's Office (with supporting affidavit where necessary) or a passport where the birth certificate is not available, a marriage certificate where name has been changed through marriage, evidence of being resident in the electoral district for at least two months, in the case of a Commonwealth citizen, documentary evidence that he has enjoyed resident

status in Trinidad and Tobago for at least one year.

Citizens who were previously registered must produce their old identification cards.

If any changes are to be made to the existing information, such change must be supported by documentary evidence.

Where the old identification card is not available and/or documentary evidence in support of changes affected is not supplied, further checks must be made at the Central Electoral Office, First Floor, Salvatori Building, Port of Spain.

To complete the exercise, the registrant must supply his height measurement, preferably in centimetres, and may furnish two black and white or colour photos 1 1/4 inches by one inch which must be certified by persons competent to certify passport pictures.

In a television address yesterday, Sir Isaac said the exercise which the Commission was about to begin "is of the utmost importance to us as a people living in a sovereign democratic state, which our Constitution declares it to be."

He said that free and fair elections "are a basic postulate and a self-evident characteristic of a free and open democratic society such as ours, and this is so, even though it is not expressly provided for in the Constitution, or in any law of our country."

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PNM CONFERENCE EXAMINES PARTY'S POLITICAL PROSPECTS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 23 Jul 85 p 3

[Text]

THE RULING People's National Movement (PNM) must return to the people now — not two weeks before or after elections.

Labour Minister John Donaldson made this appeal on Sunday night at the annual conference of the Diego Martin West Constituency of the PNM. Four other Cabinet Ministers addressed the gathering.

Delegates passed a resolution calling on the parliamentary representative for the constituency, Works Minister Hugh Francis, not to quit active politics at the expiration of this governmental term.

In his address, Mr. Francis did not give an indication whether he would heed the delegates' call but he did say that even if this was his last term he would never leave the party.

He also openly wondered whether a political party was not behind the present drug pushing in the country to confuse and "bamboozle" the minds of young people.

Minister Donaldson, who gave the feature address at the Four Roads Community Centre, warned that the PNM must "pull up its socks", and Dr. Selwyn Ryan should be considered a "friend" of the party for publishing the results of a survey which showed the PNM would lose a general election if it is called today.

He said perhaps the PNM members were becoming too complacent, busy with everything else; they had no time for the party. Some even felt embarrassed to be known as a PNM member or supporter.

ENEMIES CONSTANT

"It is necessary that as a party we return to the people now and not two weeks before or after elections.

"The enemies of the PNM are constant..they have not changed. Some of us have grown too complacent, have grown too fat..."

He warned that for the many reasons the PNM cannot afford to lose a general election, one of them being financial. The PNM is operating on an overdraft of \$500,000.

"We could very well bite the dust if only for financial reasons if we lose an election."

National Security Minister Overand Padmore devoted most of his talk to comparing the treatment the Press gave to retrenchment in the public sector as against that in the private sector.

"We know the entire world is going through a tough period economically, Trinidad and Tobago not being excluded.

"But let Government send home one DEWD worker and it makes headlines...what kind of treatment does the Press give retrenchment in the private sector...you can hardly see it, if anything at all."

Minister Padmore said it was part of an approach to put the Government in one light.

Mr. Francis said that 90 per cent of the politicians actively opposing the PNM were suffering with "PNM political tabanca."

He assured his audience that there was nothing to be ashamed of by being identified with the party, because "we have done better than many others, if not all other countries our size."

Attorney General Senator Russell Martineau, in his capacity as Vice-Chairman of the PNM, said they had the responsibility of keeping Trinidad and Tobago a place where citizens would want to continue to belong.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

HINTS OF NAR ECONOMIC, POLITICAL VIEWS CITED, ASSESSED

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 21 Jul 85 p 9

[Article by David Renwick]

[Text]

THE NATIONAL Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), the awkward name for the marriage of convenience between the National Alliance of Trinidad and Tobago and the Organisation for National Reconstruction, is still in process of formation, so it is perhaps too early to expect anything resembling a statement of policy to emerge.

One hopes, however, that some insight into what the NAR stands for, and what part of the ideological spectrum it will inhabit, will shortly be forthcoming. After all, desiring to get rid of the PNM because we may all be heartily bored to tears with it after almost 30 years is one thing; knowing what we are putting in its place and whether the replacement can deal successfully with the residual economic and social problems of the country, quite another.

In the absence of a formal declaration of political intent, the most reliable guide to the kind of government we can expect from the NAR comes in the form of a book just published by the office of the National Alliance leader, Mr Basdeo Panday.

Its title is *Forging A New Democracy — Beyond The Post-Colonial Era* and it is a compilation into one \$30 volume of the papers presented at a conference organised by the Alliance and the Tapia-associated Trinidad and Tobago Institute of the West Indies at the Valsayn Teachers Training College in April last year.

The book, produced by an unknown printer in Freeport called HEM Printers Ltd., would be significant simply on the grounds that it is the first time any official opposition party in Caricom has taken the trouble (not to mention the expense) to set out its thoughts on a number of key issues in this fashion:

The fact that those thoughts may well form the basis for the policies by which we are governed in just over 17 months time, assuming the NAR can turn evident public appreciation into voter support on election day next year, makes *Forging A New Democracy* doubly important.

Winston Dookeran, the Alliance Parliamentary heavyweight on economic and finance and a moving spirit behind the publication of the book, made the point at its official launching that never before had an opposition party been able to muster the "intellectual resources" for an effort of this kind and he fully expected the fruits of the exercise to be "translated into political policies and action in due course."

Raphael Sebastien, a former associate of Dr James Millette at UWI, now senior researcher in the Opposition Leader's office, who edited the book, could not resist taking a swipe at his former university colleagues by noting that his office had been established for only two and a half years, yet had already "done more than UWI in all its years of existence."

That may be a touch of forgiveable hyperbole but one has to admit that the compilers of the book have performed a useful service for political discussion and ideological understanding.

For example, Mr Dookeran himself plunges straight into the question of economic policy and strongly suggests that an NAR government would reverse the monetary restraint and fiscal conservatism which has been the hallmark of recent PNM budgets under Mr Chambers and make a "dash for growth," with specific reference to employment generation.

In similar vein to the economic prescription he advanced during this year's Budget debate in Parliament, Dookeran recommends that the employment-first policy be achieved through "agriculture-linked activities like irrigation, food production, fisheries and social forestry," by "massive capital investment in productive infrastructure works," by emphasis on "housing, electronics, food-processing, sport, leisure and resort development," by "developing new industries based on technological advancement in the fields of energy, genetic engineering in agriculture, communications and information sciences" and "by the promotion of small scale industries such as electronic toys and watches, automobile parts, cassette tapes, plastic products, fruit juice powders, dyes and chemical products."

NAR economic policy, if one is to judge by Dookeran's views, will allow for the retention of the steel industry and the downstream expansion of the petroleum sector. For steel he recommends "the possibility of producing stainless steel, which can be used to foster a kitchenware industry, a steel container industry and also as an input into the building industry."

The petroleum industry will be deepened to include "the commercial production of wax, which can be used to manufacture candles, tarpaulins, paper wrappers for food, PVC cables, pharmaceuticals, rubber, textiles, rayon and pencils."

The social policy of a government heavily influenced by the thoughts of the Alliance activists contributing to the book will apparently include an experiment in "worker participation" in the running of both state-controlled and privately owned enterprises.

Dr Ralph Henry, a lecturer in economics at UWI and former chairman of the National Productivity Council, insists that "the question of worker participation must loom very large in any serious discussion of the new democracy and a new dawn for Trinidad and Tobago."

"It is hardly conceivable," Dr Henry observes, "that so much money could have left the country over the 10 years of the boom if there were worker involvement on the board of the Central Bank."

Local government is the area where the National Alliance is, in fact, now in control, rather than in opposition, so it is hardly

surprising that *Forging A New Democracy* should contain recommendations for strengthening local government bodies.

Dr Brinsley Samaroo, who is currently Alliance Opposition Leader in the Senate, leaves us in no doubt that an NAR government would "return to the county councils the powers to which they are legally entitled in the County Councils Act. The mere execution of the provisions of the Act will mean devolution of authority."

In addition, local councils would be given authority to "raise local taxes and rates," would be enlarged by the addition of non-voting representatives of village councils and community groups, would ensure that councillors and aldermen were much better paid than at present and would reclaim greater control over local job-creation schemes, such as DEWD.

Alliance spokesmen have in the past been associated with the idea of Proportional Representation and it would have been strange, indeed, had a discussion of PR been left out of its blueprint for the "New Democracy". Raphael Sebastien puts forward the concept that "the adoption of an electoral system based on PR, which will incorporate class groups with a progressive inclination within the electoral framework, would undoubtedly serve as a check against the tendency of other groups to exploit the politics of race."

The opponents of PR within the PNM have always argued precisely the opposite, so Mr Sebastien's thesis is nothing if not novel.

Whether an NAR government that won an election on the basis of the current first-past-the-post system would be idiosyncratic enough to radically alter that system remains to be seen but it would certainly feel itself obliged to re-consider the claims of the Tobagonians for greater autonomy, especially if a Tobagonian, A.N.R. Robinson, is at the head of such a government.

Mr Robinson himself highlights the weaknesses of the present devolutionary model, including its limited revenue-raising authority, the ability of the central government to frustrate the wishes of Tobago's local representatives and the "notoriously inadequate" civil service structure and procedures that have been set up in Tobago.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAMBERS IN PRS, INVITES PREMIER ZHAO TO VISIT

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 19 Jul 85 p 1

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER George Chambers, currently on his tour of the Far East, has invited Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang to visit Trinidad and Tobago and at the same time express his desire to expand trade with China.

Mr. Chambers made his invitation at a meeting with the Chinese Premier last Sunday following his official welcoming ceremony.

The Premier thanked Mr. Chambers for the invitation and said that he hoped he would have the opportunity in the future to visit this country.

Prime Minister Chambers told his hosts that this country would like to expand trade with China, particularly in the energy field. The Chinese Premier agreed and suggested that the two countries explore different ways of expanding the bilateral trade and economic and technological cooperation.

On his arrival on Saturday evening, Prime Minister Chambers and his party were greeted by the Minister of Textiles, Wu Wenying and the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cui Mingtang.

At the formal welcoming ceremony on Sunday morning the visitors were treated to a 19-gun salute and Mr. Chambers accompanied Premier Zhao on an honour guard inspection of members of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

After the ceremony which took place outside the Great Hall of the People, the two leaders went inside to begin discussions.

It was during these discussions that the Prime Minister issued his invitation to the Chinese Premier. He described the relations between the two countries as "excellent" and said that his current visit to China was an expression of the importance Trinidad and Tobago attached to China, particularly in its role in the Third World.

Premier Zhao said that relations between the two countries had always been good since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1974. The Prime Minister's visit would bring the bilateral relations into a new stage, he said.

The Chinese Premier said that his country stood for the relaxation of international tension, especially for the easing of East-West relations, and would welcome a meeting between US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

CHERISHED FRIENDSHIP

At a banquet later that same evening, he expressed his support for Caribbean countries in their opposition of super-power rivalry and their legitimate demand for the abolition of trade protectionism by developed countries.

On the question of Sino-Trinidad and Tobago relations, he said: "The Chinese Government and people cherish their friendship with Trinidad and Tobago and are ready to make joint efforts with the Government and people of Trinidad and Tobago to enhance the friendly relations between our two countries."

In his address Prime Minister Chambers said that his visit to China was a recognition of the contribution made by the Chinese community to "the progress we have achieved in the 175 years since the first Chinese settlers arrived."

"It is a recognition also of the unique role that China can play, and is playing, in world affairs."

Prime Minister Chambers noted that both countries shared the desire to pursue an independent foreign policy and said he looked forward to continued joint efforts at the United Nations and particularly at the Security Council to secure for all peoples "the achievement of peace and harmony where there is now conflict, eradication of racial and other forms of discrimination and prejudice where these are still rampant, the restoration of freedom where there is now repression, and the improvement of the quality of life of those who continue to dwell in poverty and squalor."

Prime Minister Chambers is continuing his visit to China accompanied by Government Ministers and other Government officials and a number of businessmen.

The Prime Minister and delegation went on to South Korea yesterday.

CSO: 3298/915

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EXPRESS DISPUTES CHAMBERS' ROSY ECONOMIC PICTURE

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 23 Jul 85 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

IT IS heartening to be told from London of the achievements and gains which the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has brought about by its new fiscal measures. In a meeting with representatives of the financial and corporate sector in London on July 9, Prime Minister George Chambers boasted of a "turnaround" in the economy which, he said, is "a testimony to our self-discipline in financial management."

Of course, in this neck of the woods, we don't feel the same way and a turnaround, most people will tell you, is still a long way from reality. There are, indeed, abundant reasons for this daily pessimism and the bad news of falling company profits, a dwindling job market, and the persistent threat of retrenchment are enough to make us think that Mr Chambers has a different country in mind.

Even the need which the Government perceives at this time to introduce the Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Bill gives a hollow ring to Mr Chambers' confident claims; and the debate which the Bill sparked in the Senate last week should have produced not support for Mr Chambers but dismay at the blissful way in which he related our leap forward out of the miasma of over-spending, mismanagement and bad debts.

It is necessary, perhaps, to quote Mr Chambers at length so as not to appear to casually damn his optimism. And, really, perhaps as far as Mr Chambers is concerned, the Government has been counting signs of success in its fiscal policies in the kind of hard-pressed economy that we now have. In fact, if living standards have fallen, and threaten to fall some more, this is what Mr Chambers has insisted is

necessary in this period of adjustment.

Pointing out, for instance, that the budgets from 1982 to 1985 sought to "achieve a downward adjustment in domestic spending" consistent with the loss of income from petroleum and petroleum products, Mr Chambers averred that "the cumulative effect of the Government's economic policies is beginning to have positive results."

Paramount among these results, naturally, are the halting of the tide of foreign spending and the turnaround in the balance of trade. "We are particularly encouraged by developments in the balance of payments," Mr Chambers said happily, "since in our view the availability of an adequate amount of foreign exchange reserves is essential to the proper functioning of the economy."

The balance of trade for Trinidad and Tobago "improved from a deficit of TT\$729.8 million in 1983 to a surplus of \$467.2 million in 1984 and has continued to improve in 1985." At the same time, net sales of foreign exchange by the Central Bank — "a good indicator of imports of both goods and services," said Mr Chambers — were 35.5 per cent lower than in 1984.

The sharp fall in oil revenues in 1982, said Mr Chambers, had contributed in no small measure to the fiscal accounts deteriorating from a surplus equivalent to 1.3 per cent of GDP in 1981 to a deficit of 13.9 per cent in 1982. "This deficit was lowered to 6.7 per cent of the GDP in 1984 despite the fact that oil revenues which accounted for 62 per cent of current revenues as recently as 1981 had fallen by 37 per cent. The performance of cutting the size of the deficit by more than one-half in relative terms over a mere two-year period is certainly better than that achieved by many countries operating under a stabilisation programme with the International Monetary Fund."

These are statistics which might gladden the heart of any economist and they might be proof indeed that Government's fiscal policies are working; but they really do not mean that the country today has got past its worst moments. Carried away with euphoria, however, Mr Chambers declared triumphantly that Trinidad and Tobago has the maturity to manage its own adjustment and that at no time since it joined the IMF in 1963 has the country ever had to go to that organisation for help. All that we can add is the hope that the need will not arise.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CALL FOR ARREST OF VENEZUELAN FISHING VIOLATORS

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 25 Jul 85 p 18

[Text]

TRINIDAD and Tobago must take retaliatory action and arrest Venezuelan fishermen who operate illegally on a daily basis in this country's territorial waters, acting Prime Minister Kamaluddin Mohammed was told on his visit to the south-western peninsula yesterday.

Delivering the stern and emotional appeal on behalf of Cedros and Icacos fishermen was spokesman Aaroh Badai, a former president of the Cedros Fishing Association. Badai, who was resoundingly applauded by Cedros villagers and four Government Ministers after he spoke at the official opening of the Icacos fishing centre yesterday, said while the district is thankful for the facility, relations between Cedros fishermen and the Venezuelan authorities were worsening.

"I want to tell you that while we are here, there are 60 deep-sea trawlers operating unmolested in Trinidad and Tobago waters depleting our reserves. I say if they

can arrest us every day, arrest Venezuelans too," he added.

Speaking about hardships which Icacos fishermen face, Badai said: "We are persecuted, tormented, chased and held, beaten, jailed, and shot at and we have to stand up to all that. And while only 40 permits have been issued for the Venezuelans to fish off the north coast, there is not a single incident in which a Venezuelan is held. But for us this persecution is now a way of life."

Badai added that since 1956 he had been involved in the struggle for Cedros fishermen. "We have been knocking on the doors of the Venezuelan Embassy and the Ministry of Education for a long time now."

Asked to comment on the fishermen's plight, acting Prime Minister Kamaluddin Mohammed who opened the centre yesterday said the matter is being discussed at the bilateral talks with the Venezuelan authorities.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

ARPEL MEMBERSHIP--Trinidad and Tobago is to become a full member of the Agency for Reciprocal Assistance among Latin American State-owned Oil Companies (ARPEL) at its next ordinary assembly in May 1986, ARPEL's new Secretary General, Dr Hector Fiorioli said yesterday. Dr Fiorioli made the announcement during a courtesy call on Energy Minister Mr Patrick Manning at the start of a programme of visits to ARPEL member countries. Trinidad and Tobago became an associate member of ARPEL in 1972 before a State-owned oil company existed here. The State-owned Trinidad and Tobago Oil Company Limited (Trintoc), formed from Government's take-over of the local assets of Shell holdings, has recently also taken over the local assets of Texaco Trinidad Inc. Dr Fiorioli, who visited the oil energy-based industries here yesterday, leaves today for Curacao and Venezuela before returning to Uruguay. ARPEL's members are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela and, more recently, Jamaica and Suriname. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 20 Jul 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/915

VENEZUELA

AGREEMENT REACHED ON CURACAO OIL REFINERY

PA181429 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 85

[Excerpts] Venezuela, through PDVSA [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc.], will have shares in the Curacao refinery. This forms part of the agreement that was reached today after a meeting in Miraflores Palace of the leaders of the Netherlands, Curacao and Venezuela. Here is a report by Elsy Barroeta:

The political will of the governments of the Netherlands, Venezuela, and the Netherlands Antilles for the continuation of the operation of the Curacao refinery cannot be denied after 3 days of meetings. Although no definite agreement was reached to guarantee that the refinery will remain open, they did agree on a number of points that will lead to the objective of a long life for the Curacao refinery. The refinery is the main job source on that small island. Shell announced almost 2 years ago that it would close the refinery because it is no longer profitable. Such an action would provoke chaos in the island with a population of just 170,000 so close to Venezuela.

Today's meeting among the Netherlands prime minister, the minister president of the Netherlands Antilles, President Lusinchi, and the Venezuelan energy and mines minister brought about an agreement that includes the following points: Shell promises to undertake a study to determine the refinery's profitability and the investments are necessary to modernize the refinery.

Shell also promised that if the refinery definitely continues operating, it will be the majority shareholder in the refinery. It was also agreed that Venezuela, through PDVSA, will be minority shareholders.

The agreement also establishes a mechanism of permanent consultation among the Netherlands, Venezuela and the Netherlands Antilles.

CSO: 3348/828

END